

Texas Department of Agriculture 2006-2007 Specialty Crop Block Grant Final Report

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Issues

Though horticulture remains a leading agricultural industry in Texas, its overall growth has been relatively limited. The value of nursery and greenhouse production increased by only \$2 million from 1999 to 2005, representing a less than 1 percent change. Ranked as the state's second-leading agricultural commodity a few years ago, horticulture now ranks fourth in the state. Similarly, the value of Texas vegetables has grown only 1 percent since 2004 and production has decreased 9 percent. The rising cost of fuel has caused companies to cut marketing expenses because of increased operational expenses. Therefore, each project conducted with Specialty Crop Block Grant funds has helped increase the value of both produce and plants through promotional and educational activities.

Retail promotions

Retail produce and horticulture promotions

Public interest in buying local products continues to increase. However, producers have not been able to take advantage of this opportunity for increased sales because of a lack of funds for promotional projects. TDA's retail promotions have helped producers showcase their products to this growing customer base.

Retail watermelon promotion

Texas has always been a major producer of watermelons; however, growers have not been able to afford retail demonstrations during peak harvest periods. TDA partnered with Texas watermelon producers to develop in-store demonstrations and other promotions designed to increase public awareness and sales of watermelons during the major harvest periods.

Farmers' market promotions and advertisements

The increased demand for locally grown produce is driving consumers to farmers' markets. However, consumers are not always aware of the location and operating hours of local markets. By developing brochures, advertisement campaigns and banners, TDA helped increase public awareness of farmer s' markets and helped increase sales.

Pull-up display screens

As produce and plants are available on a seasonal basis, marketing promotions must cover various parts of the state simultaneously in order to take advantage of crop availability. Putting on concurrent promotions is difficult without marketing tools available to retailers in different locations around the state. Pull-up display screens have allowed TDA staff to promote Texas plants and produce at many promotional events across the state simultaneously.

Wholesale promotions

Chef demonstrations

Large companies, marketing associations and cooperatives attract potential buyers to their booths at the Produce Marketing Association Show and the Texas Restaurant Association Foodservice Show through activities such as cooking demonstrations. Local produce companies have not been able to afford the cost of bringing a professional and well-known chef into these venues. Gaining new buyers through chef demonstrations supported by Specialty Crop Block Grant funds has enhanced the competitiveness of Texas produce in markets.

Produce Marketing Association Fresh Summit

Texas floral growers sell to major retailers in Texas, but have not had the opportunity to showcase their products to out-of-state buyers at large venues. Only four Texas producers participated in the Fresh Summit in 2006, while other larger growers and commodity groups from across the United States were able to bring in many more producers. Providing booth space for the Texas State Florist Association has enabled many additional growers to participate and network with out-of-state buyers.

Informational materials

Horticulture Landscape Guide

TDA partnered with the nursery industry to develop a landscape guide to increase consumer knowledge of plant care and handling. The landscape guide offers information on finding certified nursery professionals and quality Texas-grown plants. This valuable tool had not previously been produced due to the cost of developing such a vital piece. Specialty Crop Block Grant funds enabled this guide to be published to increase the awareness of the Texas horticulture industry.

Recipe cards

Consumers, retailers and chefs are constantly looking for new ideas and methods to prepare meals. However, the produce industry in Texas has not been able to develop recipes directly promoting and using Texas produce as increased operational costs such as fuel, water and labor have caused companies to cut back on this type of marketing tool. The recipes and cards developed under this program were a valuable tool for the produce industry as they helped to increase consumer awareness of their products.

Approach

Retail promotions

Retail produce and horticulture and watermelon promotions

TDA worked with producers to develop 40 in-store demonstrations at H-E-B, Brookshires, United Supermarkets and Whole Foods Markets. Texas consumers were able to sample blueberries, peaches, herbs, onions, cantaloupe, mushrooms, squash, tomatoes and watermelon. TDA also conducted watermelon sampling at the State Fair of Texas and the Texas Restaurant Association Tradeshow. Celebrity chefs also prepared delicious meals with Texas watermelon and provided new ideas for preparing watermelons.

Farmers' market promotions and advertisements

In order to increase awareness of farmers' markets, TDA developed advertisements in newspapers in three major cities (Houston, Austin and San Antonio). TDA also produced 4' x 6' banners for all the TDA certified farmers' markets. These banners were displayed outside farmers' markets in order to increase visibility for motorists.

Pull-up display screens

TDA developed seven produce, seven horticulture and 12 all ag-pull-up screens and distributed them to regional staff across the state. These pull up screens were used to promote Texas produce and horticulture at more than 100 consumer and industry events statewide.

Wholesale promotions

Chef demonstrations

TDA organized chef demonstrations at the Texas Restaurant Association show in June, at an industry tour in September and at the State Fair of Texas in October. Produce that was promoted included cabbage, peppers, peaches, onions, spinach, grapefruit, potatoes and watermelon. Samples of prepared dishes were distributed to 500 visitors to the TDA pavilion at the Texas Restaurant Association, 50 industry professionals during the agriculture industry tour, and to more than 2,000 visitors to the state fair.

Produce Marketing Association Fresh Summit

TDA organized chef demonstrations at the Produce Marketing Association show in October. Produce that was promoted included cabbage, onions and grapefruit. More than 400 samples of prepared dishes were distributed at this event.

Informational materials

Horticulture Landscape Guide

TDA produced the GO TEXAN Landscape Guide, which helps consumers and landscapers follow seven easy steps to a beautiful landscape. Topics include plant selection, irrigation, pruning and more. TDA also produced the Texas Superstar Brochure, GO TEXAN Herbs: The Very Zest of Texas and the Texas Earth Kind™ Rose brochure.

Recipe cards

TDA developed 20 recipes using fresh Texas produce. The recipes were printed on individual recipe cards and in booklets. These recipes were distributed to more than 50,000 consumers, chefs and retailers across Texas and the United States.

Goals Achieved

Retail Marketing Promotions

Forty retail promotions were conducted at grocery stores across Texas to demonstrate the quality and availability of Texas produce. Produce demonstrated included blueberries, peaches, herbs, onions, cantaloupes, mushrooms, squash tomatoes and watermelon. TDA worked directly with Whole Foods Market, H-E-B, United Supermarkets and Brookshire's to conduct sampling demonstrations. As a result, some retailers reported an increase in sales of up to 44 percent.

Farmers' market promotions and advertisements

TDA developed advertisements in newspapers in Houston, Austin and San Antonio. TDA also produced 110 4' x 6' banners for all TDA-certified farmers' markets. These banners were displayed outside farmers' markets in order to increase visibility to motorists. As a result, some markets have reported an increase of up to 42 percent sales over the previous year. This promotion helped consumers find the freshest produce in more than 50 farmers markets' while helping more than 100 farmers sell their produce directly to consumers. Pick-your-own farms are recording up to a 10 percent increase in sales as a result of the advertising.

Pull-up display screens

TDA produced seven produce, seven horticulture and 12 all-ag pull-up screens, and distributed them to regional staff across the state. These pull up screens were used to promote Texas produce and horticulture at more than 100 consumer and industry events statewide and were visible to more than 1 million Texans.

Wholesale promotions

Chef demonstrations

TDA organized chef demonstrations at the Texas Restaurant Association show in June, an industry tour in September and at the State Fair of Texas in October. Produce promoted included cabbage, peppers, peaches, onions, spinach, grapefruit, potatoes and watermelon. Samples of prepared dishes were distributed to 500 visitors to the TDA pavilion at the Texas Restaurant Association, 50 industry professionals during the agriculture industry tour, and to more than 2,000 visitors to the state fair.

Produce Marketing Association Fresh Summit

TDA organized chef demonstrations at the Produce Marketing Association show in October. Produce promoted included cabbage, onions and grapefruit. More than 400 samples of prepared dishes were distributed at this event.

Informational materials

Horticulture Landscape Guide

TDA cooperated with the Texas Nursery and Landscape Association to produce the GO TEXAN Landscape Guide, which helps consumers and landscapers follow seven easy steps to a beautiful landscape, including plant selection, irrigation, pruning and much more. TDA also produced the Texas Superstar Brochure, GO TEXAN Herbs: The Very Zest of Texas and the Texas Earth Kind™ Rose brochure. More than 50,000 of each of the brochures have been distributed to consumers and industry partners.

Recipe cards

TDA developed 20 recipes using fresh Texas produce and made them available in individual recipe cards and booklets. These recipes were distributed to more than 50,000 consumers, chefs and retailers across Texas and the United States.

Progress for Long-Term Success

Retail promotions

Retail produce and horticulture promotions

Retail promotions in 40 retail stores were able to reach more than 3 million consumers per week. The promotions demonstrated the quality and availability of Texas produce. Produce included blueberries, peaches, herbs, onions, cantaloupe, mushrooms, squash, tomatoes and watermelon. Promotions at Texas wine and food festivals across the state reached more than 20,000 consumers. Recipe cards were distributed at these events and TDA was able to count the number of consumers who learned about locally grown fresh Texas produce.

Retail watermelon promotion

The watermelon retail promotions resulted in an increase of sales up to 42 percent during the promotion and the two weeks that followed.

Farmers' market promotions and advertisements

Attendance at farmers' markets increased an average of 29 percent as a result of these advertising promotions. This increase in attendance translated to a 42 percent increase in sales for market vendors.

Pull-up display screens

These pull-up screens were used to promote Texas produce and horticulture at more than 100 consumer and industry events statewide and were visible to more than 1 million Texans. This increased exposure has resulted in an increase in hits to our GO TEXAN and Pick Texas Web sites up to 10 percent over the previous year.

Wholesale promotions

Chef demonstrations

As a result of the chef demonstrations at the Texas Restaurant Association Foodservice Show, Texas food and wine festivals, attendance to these events increase by 48 percent. Chef demonstrations were also conducted at the State Fair of Texas.

Produce Marketing Association Fresh Summit

The addition of a chef preparing samples with Texas produce increased the number of visitors to Texas Town at the Produce Marketing Association Fresh Summit by 30 percent. We were able to establish this by the number of recipe booklets that were distributed to those visiting Texas Town. Vendors in the Texas Town section saw an increase in activity at their booths as a result of our participation. They are however still trying to measure any increase in sales as a result. Vendors stated that they usually see an increase in sales over the course of the next harvest season.

Informational materials

Horticulture Landscape Guide

TDA cooperated with the Texas Nursery and Landscape Association to produce the GO TEXAN Landscape Guide, a seven-step guide to landscape success which helps consumers and landscapers follow seven easy steps to a beautiful landscape including plant selection, irrigation, pruning and much more. TDA also produced the Texas Superstar Brochure, GO TEXAN Herbs: The Very Zest of Texas and the Texas Earth Kind™ Rose brochure. More than 50,000 of each of the brochures have been distributed to consumers across the state of Texas. Sales of Texas plants have shown an increase of 13 percent; however, final sales will not be determined until mid June of 2008.

Recipe Cards

The recipe cards were distributed to 50,000 homeowners, chefs, school foodservice workers and grocery stores across Texas. This distribution help increase the consumer

awareness of Texas produce. Chefs and consumers contacted us through out the year for copies of the recipes we were able to create with the use of these funds. Request for recipes with Texas produce increased 100 % from the previous year. This increase in request equates to an increase in consumer awareness.

Additional Information

Attached to this report are electronic versions of the Texas Superstar brochure, Earth Kind™ rose brochure, farmers' market guide, landscape guide, herb brochure, seed packets, photos of chef demos and a PDF of newspaper ads.

Projects Not Completed

The black board projects for farmers markets were not completed due to the fact we were unable to find the right black boards for the vendors.

Financial Report

The Specialty Crop program was a part of Texas' Single Audit. The audit opinion on the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report is available at:

<https://fm.x.cpa.state.tx.us/fm/pubs/cafr/07/index.php>

Conclusion

The projects conducted with the assistance of the United States Department of Agriculture Specialty Crop Program have helped increase awareness of Texas specialty crops at all levels of the supply chain from consumers, retailers, and suppliers to producers. We expect to see continued growth in the produce and horticulture industries as a direct result of these promotions.

Contact

Richard De Los Santos
Marketing Coordinator for Horticulture, Produce and Forestry
P. O. Box 12847
Austin, Texas 78711
Phone: (512) 463-7472
E-mail: Richard.delossantos@tda.state.tx.us



Texas Superstars.™

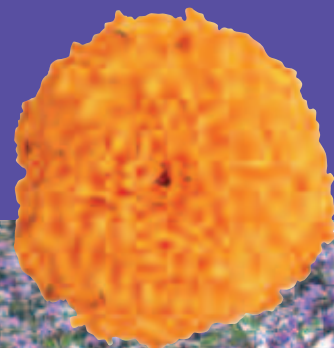
Strong and
Stunning Plants
for Texans.



COMMISSIONER TODD STAPLES
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



GO TEXAN.



What it takes to be a Superstar

It isn't easy to become a Superstar. Only the toughest, most reliable and best-looking plants make the cut. Every plant earning the Texas Superstar designation undergoes several years of extensive field trials by Texas A&M University's Agriculture Program. They must be proven to be super-performing plants under Texas growing conditions. During the field trials, plants receive minimal soil preparation, minimal water and no pesticides. What does that mean for the average homeowner? It means landscape success with beautiful, proven, Texas-tough plants. Visit www.TexasSuperstar.com for additional details about these amazing stars.

GO TEXAN

GO TEXAN, launched by the Texas Department of Agriculture, helps Texans spot Texas agricultural products at a glance. The comprehensive marketing effort promotes everything from Texas food, fiber and wine to flowers, plants, trees and more. When you want to know it's Texas-grown, simply look for the GO TEXAN logo. Visit www.GOTEXAN.org for details. For additional information on what Texas grows, go to www.PickTexas.com.



Texas Bluebonnet

Lupinus texensis
The Texas state flower is a hardy winter annual native to Texas. This species is the most commonly seen variety along roadsides and in pastures throughout the state. Flowers are densely arranged on a spike with a characteristic ice white terminal tip.
Exposure: full, hot sun
Height: 12-24 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: fall
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: flower beds, meadows and hillsides
Special notes: The Texas bluebonnet, which blooms between March and May, has a blue flowering stalk tipped with white (like a bunny's tail). These hearty plants rarely suffer from insect and disease problems, however a well-balanced fertilizer applied in the fall will help with flower production.



Texas Maroon Bluebonnet

Lupinus texensis
"Texas Maroon"
A selection of the Texas state flower is a hardy winter annual native to Texas. Flowers are densely arranged on a spike with a characteristic ice white terminal tip.
Exposure: full sun essential
Height: 12-14 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: fall
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: bedding, window boxes, patio containers and hanging baskets
Special notes: Texas maroon bluebonnets have a spreading growth habit and reddish-maroon flowers with a characteristic white terminal tip. It is recommended they are spaced 12 inches apart when transplanting or seeding.



Texas Gold Columbine

Aquilegia chrysantha hinckleyana
"Texas Gold"
This cool season perennial has bright yellow, lightly fragrant spring flowers atop its long stems. Its gray-green foliage is evergreen in warmer climates.
Exposure: filtered shade in the summer and full sun in the winter and spring, such as found under the canopy of a deciduous tree
Height: 18-24 inches
Plant type: cool season perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: garden accent, specimen, hummingbird garden and container garden
Special notes: The Texas Gold columbine is recommended for hardiness zone 5. It has an open clumping habit and grows as wide as 24 inches. It works best in a full sun environment with medium water.



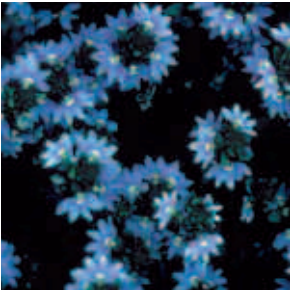
Brazilian Sky Flower

Duranta erecta
Brazilian Sky Flower is a rapid growing, dense shrub with small glossy leaves and a profusion of pendulous racemes of small flowers with colors varying from light blue to purple.
Exposure: sun or shade; flowers heavier in sun
Height: 12-15 feet in south Texas depending on pruning
Plant type: root-hardy perennial in South Texas, but annual or tender perennial in most of the state
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils
Suggested uses: can be used as a container plant or an accent plant in a landscape
Special notes: Some selections fruit heavily and the plant becomes covered with small, golden ball-like drupes. Must be treated as an annual-root hardy perennial in most parts of Texas, but will be perennial in South Texas. Brazilian Sky Flower blooms best from summer until the first frost.



Gold Star Esperanza

Tecoma stans
"Gold Star"
This heat-loving, semi-evergreen shrub has golden-yellow bell-shaped flowers late spring through fall.
Exposure: full sun
Height: 4 feet
Plant type: evergreen
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: containers, flower beds, butterfly and hummingbird gardens
Special notes: Gold Star esperanza is recommended for hardiness zone 9. It has attractive glossy foliage and grows up to 3-feet wide. Gold Star esperanza requires medium amounts of water. Water weekly in lieu of one inch of rain. Immediately remove the fruit (beans) after flowering to promote rebloom.



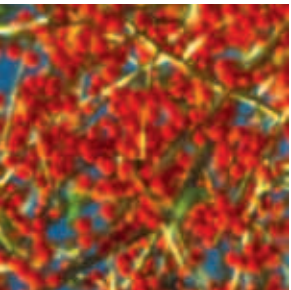
New Wonder Fan Flower

Scaevola aemula
"New Wonder" PPAF
This spreading tender perennial offers fan-shaped lilac-mauve flowers from spring to fall.
Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Height: 6-8 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: specimen plant, groundcover, flower beds and large containers
Special notes: The New Wonder fan flower is a heat loving, easy care annual which thrives in the sun and covers itself with a profusion of fan-shaped, lavender flowers. Works best in a large container with well aerated potting mix and medium to high amounts of water. This Texas Superstar thrives best in hardiness zone 9 and can be evergreen in mild climates.



Firebush

Hamelia patens
Firebush offers real hope to heat-hammered summer landscapes. Once established, firebush is very heat and drought tolerant. Firebush is an evergreen shrub or small tree native to many areas in tropical and subtropical America.
Exposure: full sun
Height: 18-30 inches
Plant type: annual from Central Texas northward, perennial in South Texas
Planting time: set transplants from mid-May through summer months and space one foot apart
Soil type: almost any well-drained soil, even highly alkaline, heavy clays
Suggested uses: mass plantings with white blooming annuals, containers and hummingbird gardens
Special notes: The firebush blooms between June and November with terminal clusters of scarlet red, tubular blossoms with deeper red throats. Its foliage turns to a blood red color in the fall. Two pounds of a high nitrogen fertilizer (without herbicide) per 100 square feet of bed area are recommended. Firebush does not usually show signs of insect or disease damage when grown outdoors in a full sun location.



Possum Haw Deciduous Holly

Ilex deciduas
This outstanding small native tree requires very low maintenance. It will drop its leaves in fall to reveal showy red or orange berries (on female plants) that remain throughout the winter. Possum Haw attracts songbirds and is heat and drought tolerant.
Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Height: 10-15 feet
Plant type: large deciduous woody shrub or small tree
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to slightly alkaline
Suggested uses: accent, shrub border, fall to winter specimen, limbed up as a small ornamental tree or patio tree
Special notes: Plant female clones for fruit effects, however a male pollinator must be in the area. Possum haw tolerates seasonal poorly drained soils.



Flare Perennial Hibiscus

Hibiscus x "Flare"
This herbaceous perennial has apple-green foliage and large iridescent fuchsia-red flowers up to 10 inches wide.
Exposure: full sun
Height: 3-4 feet
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: any soil type, including high alkaline clays
Suggested uses: perennial border, butterfly and hummingbird gardens and containers
Special notes: The Flare hibiscus performs best in hardiness zone 5. It produces large leaves and is a profuse bloomer with a mounding habit. It is also self-sterile, which encourages re-bloom. The Flare hibiscus will bloom from summer through the first frost.



Moy Grande Perennial Hibiscus

Hibiscus x "Moy Grande"
The giant-flowered rose mallow has the largest flowers of any hardy perennial. These are descendants of the native hibiscus found in Louisiana and other Gulf Coast states. They are among the most spectacular and easily grown plants. Ying Doon Moy, research and development horticulturist at the San Antonio Botanical Center, cross-bred a *Hibiscus moscheutos* hybrid with *Hibiscus grandiflorus* to create the largest, open-face hibiscus flower in the world. The phenomenon of hybrid vigor (the offspring is superior to either parent) resulted in huge, rose-pink flowers of the new variety named Moy Grande.
Exposure: full sun
Height: 5 feet
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil containing plenty of organic matter and nutrients
Suggested uses: perennial border, butterfly and hummingbird gardens
Special notes: Moy Grande will grow up to 5-feet wide and bloom between May and September. Removing spent flowers and developing seed pods will promote re-bloom. Flowers are usually 12 inches wide and have a rose-pink color. Moy Grande hibiscus will perform best in hardiness zone 5.



**Lord Baltimore
Perennial Hibiscus**

Hibiscus x “Lord Baltimore”

This perennial has glossy foliage and large red flowers up to 10 inches wide.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 5 feet
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: prefers neutral to acid soils
Suggested uses: perennial border, butterfly and hummingbird gardens

Special notes: The Lord Baltimore performs best in hardiness zone 5. It has attractive foliage, provides stunning color, loves the heat and requires very little maintenance. It also has excellent pest and disease resistance and works best with medium amounts of water.



New Gold Lantana

Lantana camera “New Gold”

The New Gold Lantana is a low maintenance annual with golden yellow flowers. It is drought and heat tolerant, and its reduced fruit set promotes prolific blooming from spring until frost.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 12-24 inches
Plant type: small spreading woody shrub, herbaceous perennial or annual depending on the locations
Planting time: spring to summer from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to moderately alkaline with moderate drainage
Suggested uses: accent, bedding, bank cover or patio containers
Special notes: When well established, the plants are very drought tolerant and continue to produce bright and attractive blooms in the hottest of weather. This annual also needs periodic renewal pruning to remove old dead wood.



**Pink Bunny
Bloom Larkspur**

*Consolida ambigua
“Pink Bunny Bloom”*

This reseeding annual has a backward projecting spur, formed by the upper petal of the flower, and the head of a “bunny” formed by the upper white petal of the pink flower.

Exposure: full sun for best bloom but will tolerate partial shade
Height: 36 inches
Plant type: reseeding annual
Planting time: fall
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: bedding, cut flowers and dried flowers
Special notes: The Pink Bunny Bloom larkspur performs best in hardiness zone 7, spaced 10-12 inches apart. Apply only medium amounts of water. Plants are likely to rot at the base in soils that retain excessive moisture.

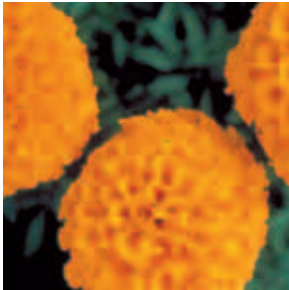


**Blue Shades Bunny
Bloom Larkspur**

*Consolida ambigua
“Blue Shades Bunny Bloom”*

This reseeding annual has a backward projecting spur, formed by the upper petal of the flower, with a “bunny” formed by the upper light blue petal of the blue flower.

Exposure: full sun for best bloom but will tolerate partial shade
Height: 36 inches
Plant type: reseeding annual
Planting time: fall
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: in bedding, window boxes, cut flowers and dried flowers
Special notes: The Blue Shades Bunny Bloom larkspur performs best in hardiness zone 7, spaced 10-12 inches apart. It has a spreading growth with blue and shades of blue flowers. Plants are likely to rot at the base in soils that retain excessive moisture.



Mari-mum

Tagetes erecta

There are several different varieties of Mari-mums to choose from that will fit your landscape needs. Mari-mums bloom 2-3 times longer than other mums and are very low maintenance.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 8-16 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: transplant in mid-August
Soil type: well-drained soil with organic matter
Suggested uses: Mari-mums have such visual impact, even at a distance, that they’re a wonderful choice for mass planting in the accent corner of the backyard or along the front edge of a flower bed, walkways or garden paths. Mari-mums also do extremely well in containers.

Special notes: Applying 1-2 pounds of a slow release lawn fertilizer per 100 square feet of bed area will enhance blooming.



Satsuma Mandarin

Citrus reticulata

Satsuma Mandarin produces the highest quality, most cold tolerant citrus for Texas. The tree has attractive evergreen foliage and produces white flowers with a wonderful fragrance. The mandarin fruit is very sweet, juicy, easy to peel and almost seedless.

Exposure: minimum of 8-10 hours of sun a day
Height: 4-6 feet after several years in container
Plant type: evergreen citrus tree
Planting time: fall
Suggested uses: accent plant for the patio and containers

Special notes: This Texas Superstar will perform best in hardiness zone 9. It will flower between March and April with fruit ripening in late fall. Use at least a 20-gallon container with drainage holes. Follow label directions in applying the full rate of a slow release fertilizer formulated specifically for container use and including both macro- and micro-nutrients. Reapply fertilizer every four months. Don’t water too frequently; and bring inside when there is a freeze warning.



Shantung Maple

Acer truncatum

This beautiful maple has a spreading canopy with attractive foliage that turns spectacular red or red-orange in late fall. It is reminiscent of Japanese maple but much tougher.

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Height: 25 feet
Plant type: ornamental deciduous tree
Planting time: fall and spring
Soil type: various soil types and tolerates alkaline soils
Suggested uses: shade tree for small yards
Special notes: Shantung maples tolerate heat, however they are not adapted to West Texas, and the trunk must be wrapped the first three years to prevent sunscald. Performs best in hardiness zone 6.



Chinkapin Oak

Quercus muehlenbergii

Chinkapin Oak is an attractive medium to large shade tree suitable for use in much of Texas. Its distinctive saw-tooth leaves, which resemble those of the chinquapin tree found in the eastern United States, are a rich green, turning yellow to bronze in fall.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 50-60 feet
Plant type: large deciduous tree
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from slightly acidic to moderately alkaline with moderate drainage
Suggested uses: shade tree, street tree or park tree
Special notes: It grows in the wild on well-drained bottomland soils and limestone hills near water, but it is adaptable to a range of soils and exposures. It is moderate- to fast-growing and develops an open rounded crown as it ages. Chinkapin oak is heat and drought tolerant, which makes the species widely adaptable throughout Texas.

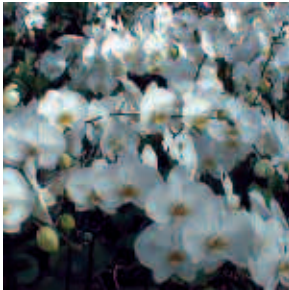


Lacey Oak

Quercus glaucoides

This beautiful small oak, native to the Texas Hill Country, has a spreading canopy with attractive bluish-green foliage. Lacey oaks are highly tolerant of heat, drought, alkaline soil and pests. They make wonderful shade trees for smaller yards.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 25 feet
Plant type: deciduous tree
Planting time: fall and spring
Soil type: will survive in well-drained clay soils, but grows best in well-drained limestone soils
Suggested uses: Xeriscapes or low water-use landscapes are perfect conditions for growing Lacey oak. Works best as a shade tree in a small to medium landscape.
Special notes: Best adapted to the western two-thirds of the state. Don’t water too frequently.



Moth Orchid

Phalaenopsis

The moth orchid is one of the best orchids for growing in the home. These orchids grow in water and take moisture from the air. Clumped orchid plants in small pots are usually the most spectacular bloom producers.

Exposure: place near bright windows with no direct sun
Height: 2 feet
Plant type: sub-tropical indoor plants
Planting time: late spring or early summer, after blooming has completed
Soil type: Well-draining mix, such as fir bark, tree fern fiber, various types of stone, peat moss or combinations. Standard potting mixes will kill them.
Suggested uses: interior plants to add color to a home or office

Special notes: Keep the temperature above 60° F at night and between 70° F and 82° F during the day. Temperatures below 78° F for three to five weeks with good light are needed for initiating flower spikes. Thoroughly water and then let stand and do not water again until nearly dry. Apply a complete fertilizer on a regular schedule during the active growing season at a rate of one-half to one teaspoon per one gallon at each watering. Potting should be done in late spring or early summer after blooming is complete.



Dwarf Mexican Petunia
Ruellia brittoniana
(various dwarf cultivars)

Under proper growing conditions, dwarf Mexican petunias tend to reseed and produce tall upright, dark green plants with lance-shaped leaves and bright, tubular flowers when in full bloom during the hottest part of the summer.

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Height: 6-8 inches
Plant type: herbaceous perennial or annual depending on the location
Planting time: spring to summer from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to moderately alkaline with moderate drainage
Suggested uses: accent, small scale groundcover, perennial borders, edging or mixed plantings

Special notes: Dwarf Mexican petunias are very adaptable and will tolerate both wet and dry soils. They prefer full sun but will grow in shade; however, since flowering is light-related, the plants will flower less in the shade. Although dwarf Mexican petunias are drought tolerant once established, they perform best with regular irrigation during droughts and with regular feeding of high phosphorus fertilizers. Dwarf Mexican petunias are available in blue, pink and white.



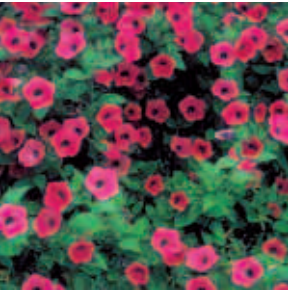
Laura Bush Petunia
Petunia x "Laura Bush"

This is an old-fashioned reseeding petunia. It is more cold tolerant, disease resistant and heat tolerant than modern hybrids.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 24 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: spring and summer

Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: bedding, window boxes, patio containers and hanging baskets

Special notes: The Laura Bush petunia performs best in hardiness zone 7. It has a spreading growth habit with medium-size violet flowers. It grows best when transplanted 36 inches apart. This Texas Superstar blooms from spring until frost. Between bloom cycles, prune back by 20 percent and lightly fertilize.



VIP Petunia (Violet in Profusion)
Petunia violacea "VIP"

This old-fashioned species of petunia is more cold tolerant, disease resistant and heat tolerant than modern hybrids. This self-sterile petunia will survive where others fail. It is a prolific bloomer throughout the growing season.

Exposure: full sun to partial shade
Height: 12 inches
Plant type: annual
Planting time: spring and summer

Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: bedding plant, groundcover, window boxes, patio containers and hanging baskets

Special notes: The VIP petunia performs best in hardiness zone 7. It has a spreading growth habit of up to 48 inches with multi-sized, bell-shaped violet flowers. It grows best when transplanted 36 inches apart. This Texas Superstar blooms from spring until frost. Between bloom cycles, prune back by 20 percent and lightly fertilize.



John Fanick Perennial Phlox
Phlox paniculata "John Fanick"

Masses of light pink flowers sporting a dark pink eye in the summer highlight this heat and drought resistant perennial. It blooms several weeks later than Victoria perennial or garden phlox and does not lodge as easily as Victoria. It is more disease resistant as well.

Exposure: full sun for best bloom but will tolerate partial shade
Height: 24-36 inches
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil

Suggested uses: specimen and background in perennial gardens

Special notes: The John Fanick perennial phlox has an attractive evergreen foliage with a compact growth habit and blooms in the summer and fall. This Texas Superstar tolerates heat, drought and powdery mildew. Plants should be spaced between 24 and 36 inches apart. Cut back in late summer for fall blooms. The ideal hardiness zone is 4.



Victoria Perennial Phlox
Phlox paniculata "Victoria"

This heat and drought resistant perennial sports masses of purplish-pink (magenta) flowers in the summer and in the fall (if cut back after summer bloom occurs).

Exposure: full sun for best bloom but will tolerate partial shade
Height: 24-36 inches
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: specimen and background in perennial gardens

Special notes: The Victoria perennial phlox has an attractive evergreen foliage with a compact growth habit. It is a hardy perennial with showy clusters of magenta pink blossoms. It also has lighter green foliage and a more open growth habit than the John Fanick. This Texas Superstar tolerates heat, drought and powdery mildew. Plants should be spaced between 24 and 36 inches apart. The ideal hardiness zone is 4.



Chinese Pistache
Pistacia chinensis

This is a long-lived, winter shade tree with spectacular red, red-orange fall color. It has outstanding heat and drought tolerance and is extremely pest resistant.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 40-50 feet
Plant type: deciduous shade tree
Planting time: fall (September through November)

Soil type: grows in any type of soil; try to avoid heavy clays that hold water
Suggested uses: ideal size for shade, enframent and background for single-story homes

Special notes: The Chinese pistache develops an umbrella-like canopy and has a width of 30 feet. Fruit set will only occur on female trees and consists of clusters of small, round green berries that turn red to reddish-purple in the fall. These fruit clusters make excellent table decorations and though inedible for humans, the fruit is relished by birds. Light but frequent fertilizations are recommended. Once established, it has superior drought, heat and wind tolerance but will not tolerate excess or standing water. The ideal hardiness zone is 5.



Belinda's Dream Rose
Rosa x "Belinda's Dream"

A cross between "Tiffany" and "Jersey Beauty," this fast growing shrub is upright and sturdy and has bluish-green foliage. Its blossom is a clean pink, double and high-centered rose in the classic hybrid tea style. Blooms occur in abundance all through the warm months, especially if spent blooms are removed immediately. The flowers are produced in abundance throughout the growing season and have a rich, distinctive fragrance.

Exposure: full sun for best bloom
Height: 5 feet
Plant type: shrub rose
Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils
Suggested uses: cut flowers, dried flowers for potpourri and landscapes

Special notes: Belinda's Dream performs best in hardiness zone 5. It has a bush habit and can be as wide as 4 feet. Needs day-long full sun and good air movement over the leaves. Drip irrigation or a soaker hose is recommended. The plant is occasionally attacked by black spot during the cool season but is usually vigorous enough to overcome the disease.



Knockout™ Rose
Rosa "Radrazz"

The Knockout™ Rose produces fluorescent, cherry-red blooms that begin in spring and continue to provide color until the first frost.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 3-4 feet, but can grow up to 5-feet high and 5-feet wide when mature
Plant type: shrub rose
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to moderately alkaline with reasonable drainage
Suggested uses: accent, shrub border, rose garden or low hedges

Special notes: The Knockout Rose grows well in planting zones 4 through 9 and is highly tolerant of black spot, powdery mildew and aphids. It is also cold-hardy throughout the state, will grow in a wide range of soils (even highly alkaline clays) and is very heat and drought tolerant once established. During the winter months, its orange-red rose hips provide added interest.



Marie Daly Rose
Rosa x polyantha "Marie Daly"

This easy care shrub rose has few thorns and lots of very fragrant, double pink blooms. It offers successive flushes of bloom from spring to frost. Developed for Texas, this rose offers a new color of renowned antique rose "Marie Pavie" and good disease and alkaline soil tolerance.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 3 feet
Plant type: shrub rose
Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils
Suggested uses: cut flowers, dried flowers for potpourri and landscapes

Special notes: Marie Daly Rose performs best in hardiness zone 5. It has a bush habit and can be as wide as 3 feet. Needs daylong full sun and good air movement over the leaves. Drip irrigation or a soaker hose is recommended.



Cape Plumbago
Plumbago auriculata

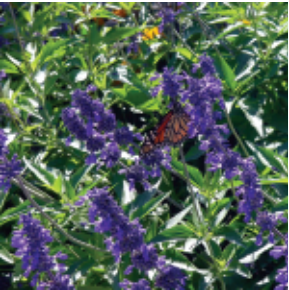
Cape Plumbago produces profuse blue flowers and thrives in the hot Texas summer. It is sometimes called "sky flower" because of the sky-blue color of its flowers. It produces from May until the first frost.

Exposure: full sun; partial sun
Height: 4 feet tall, up to 5 feet wide
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: anytime from containers

Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to moderately alkaline with moderate drainage

Suggested uses: container or accent plant

Special notes: Dried flowers should be pruned from the Plumbago to encourage re-blooming and to maintain desired plant shape. It is excellent for attracting butterflies. It can handle hot, humid summers and is reasonably drought tolerant.



Henry Duelberg
Salvia farinacea

Henry Duelberg is a low maintenance; heat tolerant, Texas native plant that produces masses of showy blue flowers from spring until the first frost.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 3 feet; width 3 feet
Plant type: perennial
Soil type: adapts to most soils
Suggested uses: bedding, containers, xeriscape, perennial border, cut flower

Special notes: Shearing frequently between bloom cycles will promote bloom development. Henry Duelberg is not preferred by deer.

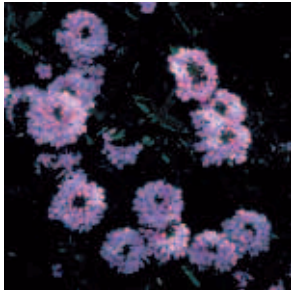


Variegated Tapioca
Manihot esculenta

Variegated Tapioca is a tropical plant grown as an annual in all but southernmost Texas. The variegated leaves form a chartreuse/ yellow pattern. It is a non-blooming plant that offers a tropical flare to summer landscapes.

Exposure: full sun; partial sun, however plants are most colorful when grown in full sun
Height: 4 feet tall, up to 5 feet wide
Plant type: annual in all but southernmost Texas
Planting time: spring after last frost
Soil type: requires a well-drained soil or container potting mix and will tolerate a wide range of pH
Suggested uses: container or accent plant

Special notes: Variegated tapioca is a heat lover and does not grow vigorously until the night temperatures are consistently above 60 degrees F. It will exhibit chilling injury when night temperatures dip below 50 degrees F. Keep the growing medium moist, and mulch if planted in the soil. Plants will grow just as well in alkaline soil as they will in acidic soils. They are somewhat tolerant to foliar salt exposure in the Coastal Bend area.



Blue Princess Verbena
Verbena x hybrida
“Blue Princess”

This butterfly-attracting, easy care perennial has masses of beautiful, lavender blue flowers.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 12 inches
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring
Soil type: well-drained soil
Suggested uses: bedding plant, containers, baskets, perennial border, butterfly and hummingbird gardens

Special notes: The Blue Princess verbena blooms early spring through late fall. Shear between bloom cycles to promote new blooms.



Texas Lilac Vitex
Vitex agnus-castus

The Texas Lilac Vitex, also known as Mexican lavender, is a small-flowering tree and grows best when planted in full sun and in a location that drains well.

Exposure: full sun
Height: 10-15 feet
Plant type: large deciduous woody shrub or small tree
Planting time: anytime from containers
Soil type: adapts to most soils from acidic to moderately alkaline with moderate drainage
Suggested uses: accent, shrub border, seasonal screen or limbed up as a small ornamental tree

Special notes: Texas Lilac Vitex needs periodic renewal pruning to remove old dead wood. It is also known as Mexican lavender. It prospers in hot and dry environments. The Texas Department of Transportation recognizes its toughness and plants vitex in highway medians. It is also a spectacular butterfly-attracting plant.



Clyde Ikins
Nymphaea spp.

Clyde Ikins produces flowers which are creamy yellow with a hint of pink, shading to light yellow apricot at inner petals. The anther color is bright yellow with a creamy white sepal color. Flower size is 4 to 6 inches with 32-34 petals and a strong fragrance.

Height: flowers grow 3-8 inches above the surface of the water
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring-summer when water temperature is 70-85 degrees F
Soil type: heavy clay
Suggested uses: ponds, cut flowers, dry flowers

Special notes: Clyde Ikins has leaves that are medium green on top while newer leaves are more olive with a hint of mottling. The underside of the leaves are reddish-brown with green veins. Their leaf size is 6-8 inches with a spread of 6-8 feet.



Colorado
Nymphaea spp.

Colorado produces flowers with outer petals that have a soft pink shading to light peach on innermost petals.

Exposure: full sun
Height: flowers grow 3-8 inches above the surface of the water
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring-summer when water temperature is 70-85 degrees F
Soil type: heavy clay
Suggested uses: ponds, cut flowers, dry flowers

Special notes: Colorado produces flowers that are 3-4 inches across with 26-28 petals with a pleasant fragrance. Inner anthers are medium yellow with outer anthers soft pink and yellow. Colorado produces medium green top leaves with newer leaves more olive in color with faint mottling with reddish plum undersides. The leaf size is 5-7 inches with a spread of 3-5 feet.



Laydekeri Fulgens
Nymphaea spp.

Flowers are vivid burgundy-red. Flower size is 5-6 inches with 20 petals and a slight fragrance. Sepal color is pale pink with white tips.

Exposure: full sun
Height: Flowers grow 3-8 inches above the surface of the water
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring-summer when water temperature is 70-85 degrees F
Soil type: heavy clay
Suggested uses: ponds, cut flowers, dry flowers

Special notes: Laydekeri Fulgens produces leaves that are green on top with new leaves producing a purplish green color. The undersides of the leaves have dark purple blotches with purple undersides. Laydekeri Fulgens produces 8.5 inch leaves with a spread of 4-5 feet.



Panama Pacific
Nymphaea spp.

Panama Pacific has a deep violet-purple flower, purple sepal and a yellow anther with violet tips. The flower size is 4.5-6 inches with 21-22 petals and a very sweet fragrance.

Height: flowers grow 3-8 inches above the surface of the water
Plant type: annual
Planting time: spring-summer when water temperature is 70-85 degrees F
Soil type: heavy clay
Suggested uses: ponds, cut flowers, dry flowers

Special notes: Panama Pacific has green top leaves and purple undersides. New leaves turn green then red and all are heavily mottled purple. Leaf size is 9-11 inches with a spread of 4-6 feet.



Perry's Double White
Nymphaea spp.

Perry's Double White flowers are pure white with sepals white tipped in green with prominent dark gray veins and yellow anther. The flower size is 6-7 inches with 39-46 petals with no fragrance.

Height: flowers grow 3-8 inches above the surface of the water
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring-summer when water temperature is 70-85 degrees F
Soil type: heavy clay
Suggested uses: ponds, cut flowers, dry flowers

Special notes: Perry's Double White's leaf color is deep green on top and underside. New leaves are slightly bronzed. The leaf size is 8 inches with a spread of 4-5 feet.



Red Flare
Nymphaea spp.

Red Flare produces flowers that are deep red with deep red sepals and reddish brown anthers. The flower size is 7-10 inches with 19-20 petals and a faint but pungent fragrance.

Height: Flowers grow 3-8 inches above the surface of the water
Plant type: annual
Planting time: spring-summer when water temperature is 70-85 degrees F
Soil type: heavy clay
Suggested uses: ponds, cut flowers, dry flowers

Special notes: Red Flare is a tropical night bloomer. It produces leaves that are reddish-bronze on top with purple undersides. The leaf size is 10-12 inches with a spread of 5-6 feet.



Star of Siam
Nymphaea spp.

Star of Siam has large violet-blue petal flowers with violet-blue sepals and yellow anthers with blue appendages that produce a beautiful fragrance.

Height: Flowers grow 3-8 inches above the surface of the water
Plant type: annual
Planting time: spring-summer when water temperature is 70-85 degrees F

Soil type: heavy clay
Suggested uses: ponds, cut flowers, dry flowers

Special notes: Star of Siam produces leaves that are green and richly mottled with a maroon pigment. Leaves are 10-12 inches in diameter and produce a spread with an 8 foot diameter.



Texas Dawn
Nymphaea spp.

Texas Dawn received the International Water Lily Society's 1990 American Award. It can be expected to produce seven to eight blooms at a time by mid-summer. Texas Dawn produces rich yellow flowers with outer petals blushed pink, greenish yellow with pink border sepal and deep yellow anthers. Flower size is 3-8 inches with a lemony fragrance.

Exposure: full sun
Height: flowers grow 3-8 inches above the surface of the water
Plant type: perennial
Planting time: spring-summer when water temperature is 70-85 degrees F
Soil type: heavy clay
Suggested uses: ponds, cut flowers, dry flowers

Special notes: Green top leaves speckled purple with purple undersides. Leaves are 8 inches with a 3-5 foot spread. Even though Texas Dawn requires full sun, it is one of a few varieties that can bloom with 3 hours of sun daily, increasing your landscaping options. In some instances Texas Dawn can produce up to three blooms per day.

Future Texas Superstar releases:

With these upcoming new releases, the future for Texas Superstars is blooming brighter than ever. Look for these shining Superstars over the next few years:

SPRING, (May) 2008
Jatropha (Compacta)

An evergreen shrub or small tree with glossy leaves and clusters of star shaped bright scarlet or vermilion flowers, Jatropha has a rounded or narrow domed form. The spectacular flowers are about 1 inch across and bloom in multi-flowered terminal clusters almost all year when grown in full sun to partial shade. Use Jatropha as an accent, a mixed shrub border, or as a container plant. It attracts butterflies and hummingbirds.

SUMMER, (June) 2008
Hibiscus moscheutos 'Flare'
(part of the Flare series)

This showy perennial has large glowing fuchsia flowers. The offspring have the same superior traits as the original, but their colors are pink and peppermint (white with red stripes). Its maple-like, emerald green foliage is very attractive on compact plants and offers continuous bloom.

SUMMER, (July) 2008
Pride-Of-Barbados
(Caesalpinia pulcherrima)

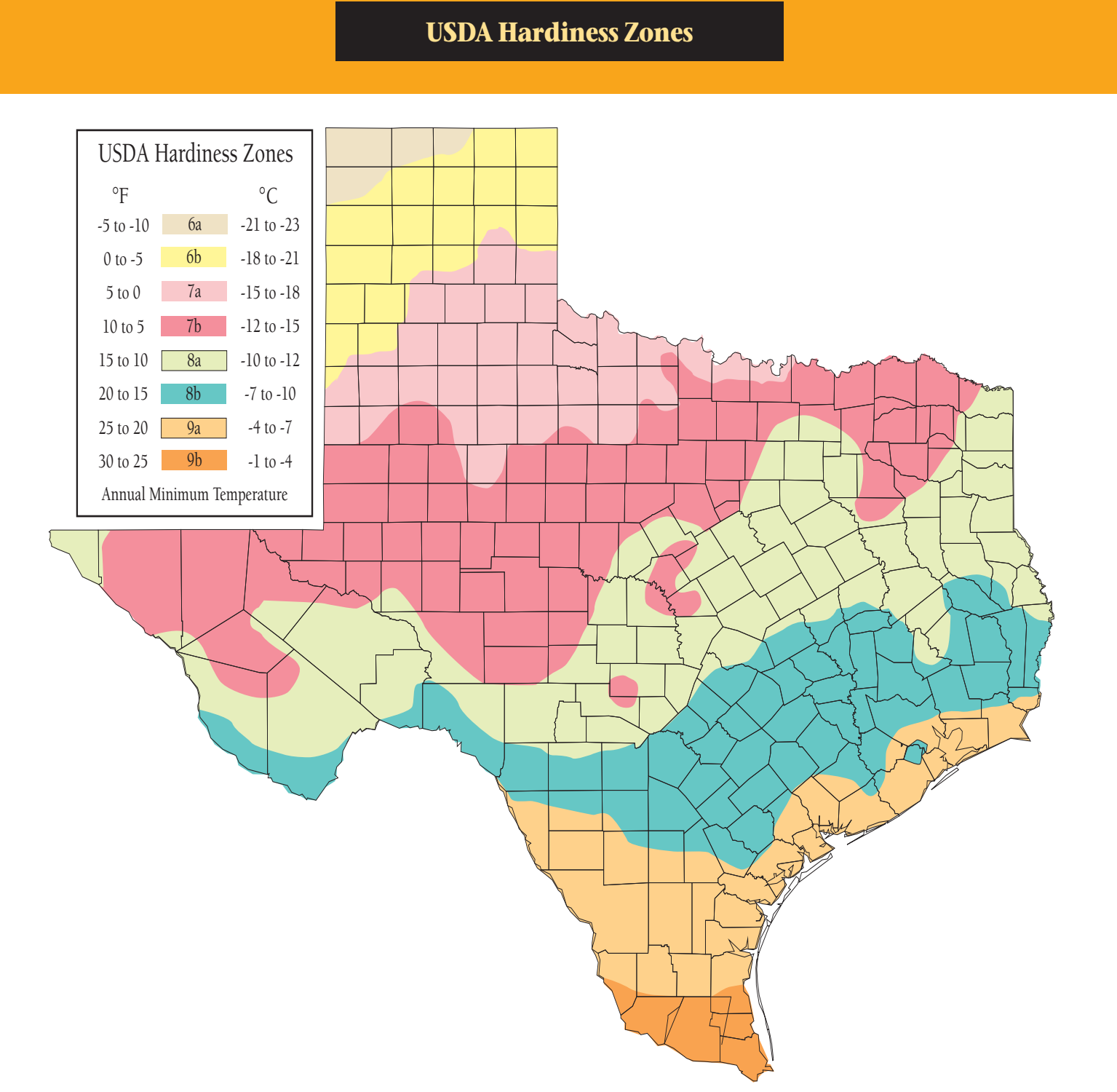
This is an evergreen shrub or small tree in frost-free climates; a deciduous shrub in zone 9 (Rio Grande Valley); a returning perennial in zone 8 (South Central Texas); and an annual in North and West Texas. Pride-of-Barbados dies to the ground following frost or freezing temperatures, but in South Central Texas it comes back in mid spring. The plant is usually 8-12 feet tall with fern-like leaves and orange and red blossoms. The flowers are bowl-shaped and 2-3 inches across in mid- to late summer and fall. Use Pride-of-Barbados as a specimen or in a mixed shrub border.

SUMMER, (June) 2009
Lowery's Legacy Cenizo (Leucophyllum langmaniae - Cimarron Sage)

Lowery's Legacy was selected for its profuse and frequent flower displays. It grows slowly to about 5 feet tall and wide with a dense, rounded form. Its sage green foliage is a wonderful backdrop for the lavender flowers. Compared with most selections of Texas sage, it is not as dependent on changes in relative humidity for flowering and can bloom more often than other selections during the summer.

SPRING, (February - May) 2010
Rosa Grandma's Yellow

The deep yellow shrub rose named Grandma's Yellow is upright and bushy. Grandma's Yellow flower is deep yellow with 17-25 petals and repeats blooms from spring until the first hard frost. Its new leaves have a shade of bronze, then turn dark green. Flowers have a light and spicy fragrance. With a full sun exposure, it reaches 4 to 5 feet in height and 3 feet in width. It is a repeat bloomer from spring until frost and is quite disease resistant. It is cold hardy to zone 6.



Texas Superstars perform best at the hardiness zones indicated; however, Texas Superstars are widely adapted across the state.



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RESOURCES

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Dallas, Texas 75252

Phone: (972) 231-5362

Web site: <http://Earthkindroses.tamu.edu>

For more information on other Earth-Kind™ plants, visit:

<http://earthkind.tamu.edu/>

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

What it takes to be an Earth-Kind™ Rose

Earth-Kind™ is one of the most prestigious horticultural plant designations given by Texas Cooperative Extension. It is based on years of extensive field research conducted by Texas A&M University horticultural experts. During this testing, no pesticides are applied to the experimental plants to assess their genetic capability to resist disease and insect problems.

Only a few, very special varieties possess the extremely high level of landscape performance coupled with the outstanding disease and insect tolerance/resistance required to receive this designation. Simply stated, Earth-Kind™ roses are the most thoroughly tested landscape roses for use in Texas landscapes. These cultivars are also suggested for trial plantings across the nation within their appropriate hardiness zones.

Once established, these highly recommended roses have tremendous heat and drought tolerance, some surviving temperatures up to 105° F. They also do very well in almost any soil type, from well-drained acid sands to poorly aerated, high alkaline clays. In most loam or clay soils, these roses need commercial synthetic or organic fertilizers with the correct compost and mulch approach to soil management.

In this brochure you will find 15 Earth-Kind™ rose varieties divided into dwarf shrubs, small shrubs, medium shrubs and mannerly climbers.

GO TEXAN

Launched in 1999 by the Texas Department of Agriculture, the GO TEXAN program promotes the products, culture and communities that call Texas home. As a mark of Lone Star pride, the GO TEXAN logo – a glowing brand in the shape of Texas – can be found on everything that calls Texas home, from grapefruit to cowboy boots to retirement destinations. Find out more at www.gotexan.org.

DWARF SHRUBS



MARIE DALY ROSE

This easy-care shrub rose has few thorns and lots of very fragrant, double pink blooms. It offers successive flushes of bloom from spring to frost. Developed for Texas, this rose has a new color of renowned antique rose “Marie Pavie” and good disease and alkaline soil tolerance.

Exposure: full sun

Size: 3' tall x 3' wide

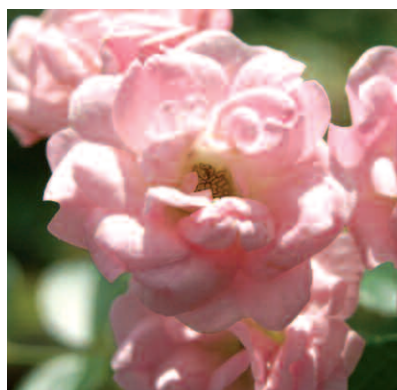
Rose type: polyantha

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: cut flowers, landscapes and dried flowers for potpourri

Special notes: The Marie Daly Rose performs best in hardiness zone 5. It has a bush habit and can be as wide as 3 feet. It needs daylong full sun and good air movement over the leaves. Drip irrigation or a soaker hose is recommended. Based on preliminary field trial data from West Texas, these particular cultivars can tolerate even highly saline (i.e., salty) water as long as there is plenty of organic matter in the soil and drip or soaker hose irrigation is being properly employed, preventing the harsh water from coming into direct contact with the foliage.



THE FAIRY

The Fairy produces a wealth of small, double, light-pink blossoms. The blooms are not fragrant and may turn blush white during intense heat. Blooming period: spring, summer and fall. The plant is a most useful size and is covered with small, shiny, very attractive foliage.

Exposure: full sun

Size: 3' tall x 4' wide

Rose type: polyantha

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: Outstanding in a massed planting to fill a central bed that is surrounded by a walkway in your Earth-Kind™ rose garden, or to act as a border to cascade over and soften the front edge of a landscape bed.

Special notes: Recommended spacing is 6 feet apart on centers. USDA cold hardiness zones: 4 - 9.

SMALL SHRUBS



CALDWELL PINK

Found growing in Caldwell, this rose has an abundance of lilac pink, fully double, almost carnation-like blossoms. The blooms are not fragrant. Blooming period: from mid-spring, throughout the summer, and well into fall. Although it does not begin blooming quite as early as most roses, this heat-tolerant performer compensates for this by being perhaps our best summer-flowering rose. Given the striking form of its blossoms and its ability to flower so well during the summer's heat, Caldwell Pink can be thought of as the "Summer Carnation" rose. This rounded shrub has small, very neat, pointed foliage.

Exposure: full sun

Size: 4' tall x 4' wide

Rose type: polyantha

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: Excellent as mid-range plants in a rose planting, with shorter plants in front and taller ones behind. Best to locate where it can be viewed at close to medium distance.

Special notes: Recommended spacing is 6 feet apart on centers. USDA cold hardiness zones: 6 - 9.



GEORGETOWN TEA

Discovered in Georgetown, this tea rose produces long-budded, fragrant, double blossoms that are dark salmon pink in the center fading to a lilac pink. Their petals roll into points at the tips, which gives the open flower a star-like appearance. Blooming period: spring, summer and fall. This plant has very healthy, attractive foliage and seemed to get even stronger with each passing year in the four-year research study.

Exposure: full sun

Size: 4' tall x 4' wide

Rose type: tea rose

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: Works very well as a mannerly specimen or as a mid-range plant in a rose planting, with drifts of annuals and/or perennials in front.

Special notes: Recommended spacing is 6 feet apart on centers. USDA cold hardiness zones: 7 - 9.



PERLE D'OR

The Perle d'Or is a highly regarded old garden rose that produces a wonderful display of highly fragrant, pom-pom shaped blossoms. Its perfectly formed buds, which bloom in the spring, summer and fall, are a lovely peach color in the center and a silky white on the margins. Perle d'Or is very healthy and a strong grower that is very drought tolerant; however, it will not tolerate "wet feet" and is not recommended for areas with highly saline irrigation water.

Exposure: full sun

Size: 4' tall x 4' wide

Rose type: polyantha

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: Plant near decks, patios, kitchen windows, or any location where you can enjoy its marvelous fragrance and almost nonstop production of blossoms. Also a top choice for planting in a large container for patio or deck.

Special notes: Recommended spacing is 6 feet apart on centers. USDA cold hardiness zones: 6 - 9.

MEDIUM SHRUBS



BELINDA'S DREAM

A cross between "Tiffany" and "Jersey Beauty," this fast-growing shrub is upright and sturdy, and has bluish-green foliage. Its blossom is a clean pink, double and high-centered rose in the classic hybrid tea style. Blooms occur in abundance all through the warm months, especially if spent blooms are removed immediately. The flowers are produced throughout the growing season and have a rich, distinctive fragrance.

Exposure: full sun for best bloom

Size: 5' tall x 5' wide

Rose type: medium shrub rose

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: cut flowers, landscapes and dried flowers for potpourri

Special notes: Belinda's Dream performs best in hardiness zone 5. It has a bush habit and can be as wide as 4 feet. It needs day-long full sun and good air movement over the leaves. Drip irrigation or a soaker hose is recommended. The plant is occasionally attacked by black spot during the cool season but is usually vigorous enough to overcome the disease.

MEDIUM SHRUBS (cont.)



CAREFREE BEAUTY

Also known as “Katy Road Pink,” this rose delights the eye with successive flushes of large, moderately fragrant, semi-double blossoms of a deep rich pink color. It produces blooms in the spring, summer and fall. The large orange hips it produces are an added bonus.

Exposure: full sun

Size: 5’ tall x 5’ wide

Rose type: medium shrub rose

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: Its rich color makes this a natural to use in a grouping of three to five to draw the viewer’s eye to a particular location. An excellent choice for everyone, especially beginning rose gardeners.

Special notes: Recommended spacing is 7 feet apart on centers. USDA cold hardiness zones: 4 - 9. Based on preliminary field trial data from West Texas, these particular cultivars can tolerate even highly saline (i.e., salty) water as long as there is plenty of organic matter in the soil and drip or soaker hose irrigation is being properly employed, preventing the harsh water from coming into direct contact with the foliage.



DUCHER

Ducher – pronounced “doo shay” – is a lovely cultivar producing buds that are round and open to form fragrant, very double blossoms of soft ivory-white. It blooms in the spring, summer and fall. While new growth is bronze in color, the mature foliage is a light green rather than the dark green of most other cultivars.

Exposure: full sun

Height: 6’ tall x 4’ wide

Rose type: China

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: Excellent as a specimen plant or in a striking drift consisting of three to five Ducher plants. Also works well in a large container.

Special notes: Recommended spacing is 6 feet apart on centers. USDA cold hardiness zones: 7 - 9.



DUCHESS DE BRABANT

Introduced in 1857, Duchesse De Brabant is both historically important and beautiful. It has large, fragrant, rose-pink double blossoms, which are cupped and rounded, like an elegant wine goblet. This was President Teddy Roosevelt’s favorite rose, which he often wore as a boutonniere. The blooming period includes the spring, summer and fall. Foliage is an apple green color and leaf blades are slightly wavy.

Exposure: full sun

Size: 6’ tall x 4’ wide

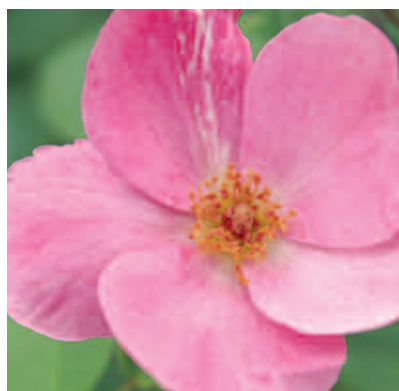
Rose type: tea rose

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: Arrange in a grouping of three to five plants in locations where you want to draw the viewer’s eye. Very easy to grow, which makes it a good choice for newcomers to rose gardening and for busy people who love drop-dead-gorgeous roses.

Special notes: Recommended spacing is 6 feet apart on centers. USDA cold hardiness zones: 7 - 9.



ELSE POULSEN

Else Poulsen is a vigorous grower and displays wave after wave of medium-large, semi-double blossoms composed of light pink petals with a slightly darker reverse. Blooms are not fragrant but have a distinctive upright form and bright coloration of the blossoms. The blooming period is spring, summer and fall.

Exposure: full sun

Size: 5’ tall x 5’ wide

Rose type: floribunda

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: Place at the back of a border or down the center of a peninsular bed where its size and high-impact color can be used to advantage.

Special notes: This rose needs excellent air circulation to reduce the incidence of disease. Recommended spacing is 7 feet apart on centers. USDA cold hardiness zones: 5 - 9.

MEDIUM SHRUBS (cont.)



KNOCKOUT™

Knockout™ produces fluorescent, cherry-red blooms that begin in spring and continue to provide color until the first frost.

Exposure: full sun

Height: 3-4 feet, but can grow up to 5-feet high and 5-feet wide when mature

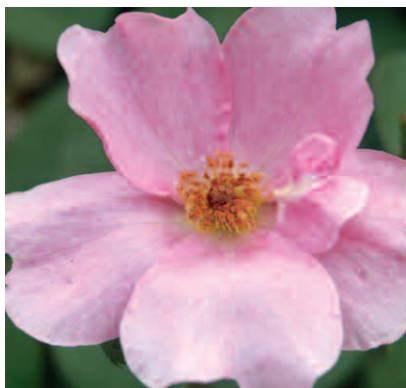
Plant type: shrub rose

Planting time: anytime from containers

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in moderate alkaline clay soils with reasonable drainage

Suggested uses: accent, shrub border, rose garden or low hedges

Special notes: Knockout™ grows well in planting zones 4 through 9 and is highly tolerant of black spot, powdery mildew and aphids. It is also cold-hardy throughout the state, will grow in a wide range of soils (even highly alkaline clays) and is very heat and drought tolerant once established. During the winter months, its orange-red rose hips provide added interest. Based on preliminary field trial data from West Texas, these particular cultivars can tolerate even highly saline (i.e., salty) water as long as there is plenty of organic matter in the soil and drip or soaker hose irrigation is being properly employed, preventing the harsh water from coming into direct contact with the foliage.



MUTABILIS

The Mutabilis is characterized by single blossoms that have an almost silken quality. Everyone, especially children, will have great fun observing this rose on a daily basis because each blossom passes through three distinct color phases beginning with yellow, changing to pink, and finally to crimson. Mutabilis is also known as “The Butterfly Rose” because its blossoms look like brightly colored butterflies. The flowers are not fragrant and bloom in the spring, summer and fall. This is a large, attractive shrub that is supremely easy to grow.

Exposure: full sun

Size: 6’ tall x 6’ wide

Rose type: China

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: Because of its large size, it is best to place at the back of a bed, or down the middle of a peninsular planting. Be sure to give it plenty of room to grow. It can also be pruned to form a spectacular rose tree

Mutabilis (cont.)

ranging from 8 to 10 feet in height.

Special notes: Recommended spacing is 8 feet apart on centers. USDA cold hardiness zones: 6 - 9. Based on preliminary field trial data from West Texas, these particular cultivars can tolerate even highly saline (i.e., salty) water as long as there is plenty of organic matter in the soil and drip or soaker hose irrigation is being properly employed, preventing the harsh water from coming into direct contact with the foliage.

MANNERLY CLIMBERS



SPICE

Found growing on the island of Bermuda, Spice produces wave after wave of blush pink, double blossoms that have a peppery fragrance. Its blooming period is spring, summer and fall. Spice is a very healthy variety and easy to grow.

Exposure: full sun

Size: 5’ tall x 4’ wide

Rose type: China

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: Arrange in a cluster of three to five plants at the back of a rose planting, or utilize as a backdrop for annuals, perennials or herbs. Flowers are good for cutting and to use in vases and arrangements. An excellent choice for everyone, especially those who are new to rose growing.

Special notes: Recommended spacing is 6 feet apart on centers. USDA cold hardiness zones: 7 - 9.



CLIMBING PINKIE

This rose produces fragrant, semi-double blossoms of a medium-pink color in the spring. Since its canes have very few thorns, it is ideally suited for training on pillars and columns.

Exposure: full sun

Size: 10’ tall x 7’ wide

Rose type: polyantha

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: Considered to be one of the best climbing roses and is ideal for use on pillars, trellises and arbors, or to drape along the top rail of a rustic fence. It makes a great accent plant for the entrance to your Earth-Kind™ rose garden.

Climbing Pinkie (cont.)

Special notes: Recommended spacing is 9 feet apart on centers. USDA cold hardiness zones: 6 - 9. Based on preliminary field trial data from West Texas, these particular cultivars can tolerate even highly saline (i.e., salty) water as long as there is plenty of organic matter in the soil and drip or soaker hose irrigation is being properly employed, preventing the harsh water from coming into direct contact with the foliage.

SEA FOAM

Sea Foam produces creamy white, double blossoms. It blooms in the spring, summer and fall, but the blooms are not fragrant. A vigorous, heat-tolerant plant, its shiny leaves are very attractive and quite healthy.

Exposure: full sun

Size: 8' tall x 4' wide

Rose type: shrub, climbing trailer

Planting time: fall and spring

Soil type: well-drained, amended soil is best but will grow in high alkaline clay soils

Suggested uses: Ideal for use on pillars and trellises, or to drape along the top rail of a rustic fence.

Special notes: Recommended spacing is 6 feet apart on centers. USDA cold hardiness zones: 4 - 9.



GROWING TIPS FOR
EARTH-KIND™ ROSES

Planting Site

- Plant in locations where roses receive direct sunlight for eight hours daily.
- Choose a location that provides good air movement over the leaves and do not plant too close together or place in cramped, enclosed areas.
- When a plant is fully-grown, there should remain at least one foot of open space all around it to facilitate good air movement, thereby significantly reducing problems with foliar diseases.
- Roses should not be sprinkler irrigated during the evening hours or at night.

Bed Preparation

Roses really respond to well-aerated soils. Texas A&M Cooperative Extension recommends the following:

- For sandy and loam soils, incorporate 3-6 inches of fully-finished plant-derived compost.
- For clay soils, incorporate 3 inches of expanded shale, then 3 inches of fully-furnished, plant-derived compost to create raised beds 6 inches above the surrounding soil. Crown beds to further improve drainage.

Maintenance

- Regardless of soil type, roses need to be protected year-round with a layer of organic mulch 3 inches thick. In addition to its many other benefits, this “living mulch” will also act as a super-slow-release, all-natural fertilizer.
- Water thoroughly when the soil in the root ball is dry to a depth of one inch.
- Once plants are established, do not water too often in heavy clay soils.
- In areas with salty irrigation water, use a drip hose to irrigate roses to avoid burning the foliage.
- Follow recommended spacing and pruning. Remove dead, diseased or broken branches to prevent foliar diseases.



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Guide to Landscape Success



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Looking for the best of Texas? The solution is simple: **GO TEXAN.** Launched by the Texas Department of Agriculture in 1999, **GO TEXAN** is a unified marketing initiative designed to spotlight the incredible array of agricultural products grown and processed in Texas. From Texas food, wine and fiber to livestock, horticulture and forestry products, **GO TEXAN** covers it all. When you want to know it's Texas' own, just **GO TEXAN.** The signature **GO TEXAN** logo points the way, stamping Texas products with Lone Star pride that simply can't be denied. For more information call (877) 99GO-TEX or visit www.GOTEXAN.org.

Homeowners across Texas strive to find the best way to take care of their landscapes. This guide will help Texans follow seven easy steps to landscape success. Included, you will find tips on planning and design, testing and improving your soil, turf areas, plant selection, irrigation, mulches and maintenance.



GO TEXAN

Guide to Landscape Success

Step 1

The first step to a beautiful landscape is **proper planning and designing** of the area you want to use. There are four simple questions to answer before you begin.

- 1) How will the space be used? Is it all fun for the family or do you want to create specialty gardens to attract birds, butterflies or other natural visitors?
- 2) Who will use the space? Kids, pets?
- 3) When will the space be used? Seasonal, daily?
- 4) How much maintenance do you want to do? Very little, daily or Weekend?

Answering these questions will help you create the landscape that is best for you. Once all these questions are answered, you can begin to consider what kind of professional partners will be needed.

Step 2

Starting your project with the **right soil mixture** will get you one step closer to that beautiful landscape you have always wanted. Testing and improving your soil is the second step. It will reveal:

- 1) Types of soils you have
- 2) The potential need for soil amendments
- 3) Types of plants best suited for area
- 4) Texture, pH, fertility



Step 3

The third step is to plant practical turf areas with the **right turfgrass**. Consider the following when deciding what type of turf to plant:

- 1) What type of foot traffic will you have?
Play area for pets and children?
- 2) How much light exposure?
- 3) What soil type?
- 4) Will ground cover work better than turf?

Step 4

Step four can begin once you have decided what you want to do with your landscape and once you analyze the soil and decide what areas will have plants and what areas will have turfgrass. Making the **appropriate plant selection** is an important step to a beautiful landscape. Here are a few things to consider when selecting plants for to fit your needs:

- 1) Does the personality of the plant fit the setting?
- 2) What are the light requirements of the plant? Sun, shade or partial shade?
- 3) Soil, water and nutrition requirements
- 4) Pest and disease resistance of the plant
- 5) Is the plant native or well adapted to the area?
- 6) Consider plant evaluation winners such as Texas Superstars,

EarthKind Roses and the Northeast Texas Winner's Circle.

- 7) Always GO TEXAN when selecting plant material

Step 5

Water availability continues to be a major issue in Texas. Whether you are planning or maintaining your landscape, **efficient irrigation** is important. The following tips will help you get the most out of every drop:

- 1) Identify low, medium and high water use areas
- 2) Group plants according to water needs
- 3) Use a licensed irrigator
- 4) Use drip or soaker hoses when possible
- 5) Water early in the morning



Step 6

Mulches play an important step in the success of a landscape. They serve as a protective ground covering that saves water, reduces evaporation, prevents erosion, controls weeds, and in the case of organic mulches, enriches the soil. When using mulch around a tree, keep it from touching the base. Mulches help with the following:

- 1) Moderate soil temperatures
- 2) Aid in root development
- 3) Add organic matter

Step 7

The most beautiful landscapes in Texas follow **appropriate maintenance practices**. Here are a few tips for maintaining your landscape:

- 1) Keep weeds down. They compete with plants for water and nutrients.
- 2) Check irrigation system for leaks.
- 3) Inspects plants weekly and take any observed change in plants to a certified nursery/landscape professional.
- 4) Fertilize plants only as needed.
- 5) Water plants when they show signs of stress. Long deep and infrequent watering is best.
- 6) Mow turfgrass frequently and at recommended height
- 7) When mowing turfgrass, do not bag it.

Resources

Your yard and garden is a major financial investment and your presentation of yourself to colleagues, friends and neighbors. Our collective management of our home landscapes has a huge impact on the environmental health of our communities. Whether doing it yourself or paying someone to get it done, work with qualified professionals for your lawn and garden needs. Working with certified nursery/landscape professionals gives you assurance that the person with whom you work is qualified to advise you. Look for the certification logo for nursery/landscape products and services. Nursery and landscape professional certification is a program of the Texas Nursery & Landscape Association.



For more information on the Texas Nursery and Landscape Association's Certified professional program contact:

Texas Nursery and Landscape Association
7730 South IH 35
Austin, Texas 78745
Phone: (512) 280-5182
www.tnla.org



The Texas Department of Agriculture's Nursery Floral Licensing Program ensures that customers receive pest-free plants through registration and inspection of nursery and floral establishments in Texas. Licensees range from the producers and distributors of a vast variety of crops (trees, shrubs, bedding plants, ornamental, turf, floral, foliage and tropical), to the flower vendors on street corners. A Nursery Floral license is required by each business at each location where nursery and/or floral items are sold; offered for sale or lease; distributed; grown for the purpose of sale or lease; or offered as an enticement to promote the sales or lease of other items. Look for this license when you shop for Texas-grown plants.

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CERTIFICATE NO: 000000000	CERTIFICATE TYPE: NURSERY-FLORAL CLASS 1	
Effective Date: September 21, 2006	Expiration Date: September 20, 2007	

For questions about a nursery floral license contact:

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Herb Association of Texas
Melda Siebe
167 PR 6124
Woodville, Texas 75979
Phone: (409) 283-3503
E-mail: herbdocl@netzero.net
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GO TEXAN HERBS:

The Very Zest of Texas



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Texas Department of Agriculture

Thanks to Texas-grown herbs, the spice of life is varied and fresh. Whether adding dash to a dish or zest to the produce aisle, Texas taste buds come alive when food and herbs collide.

Look for the GO TEXAN logo with its glowing brand in the shape of Texas and rest assured of homegrown quality and Texas pride.

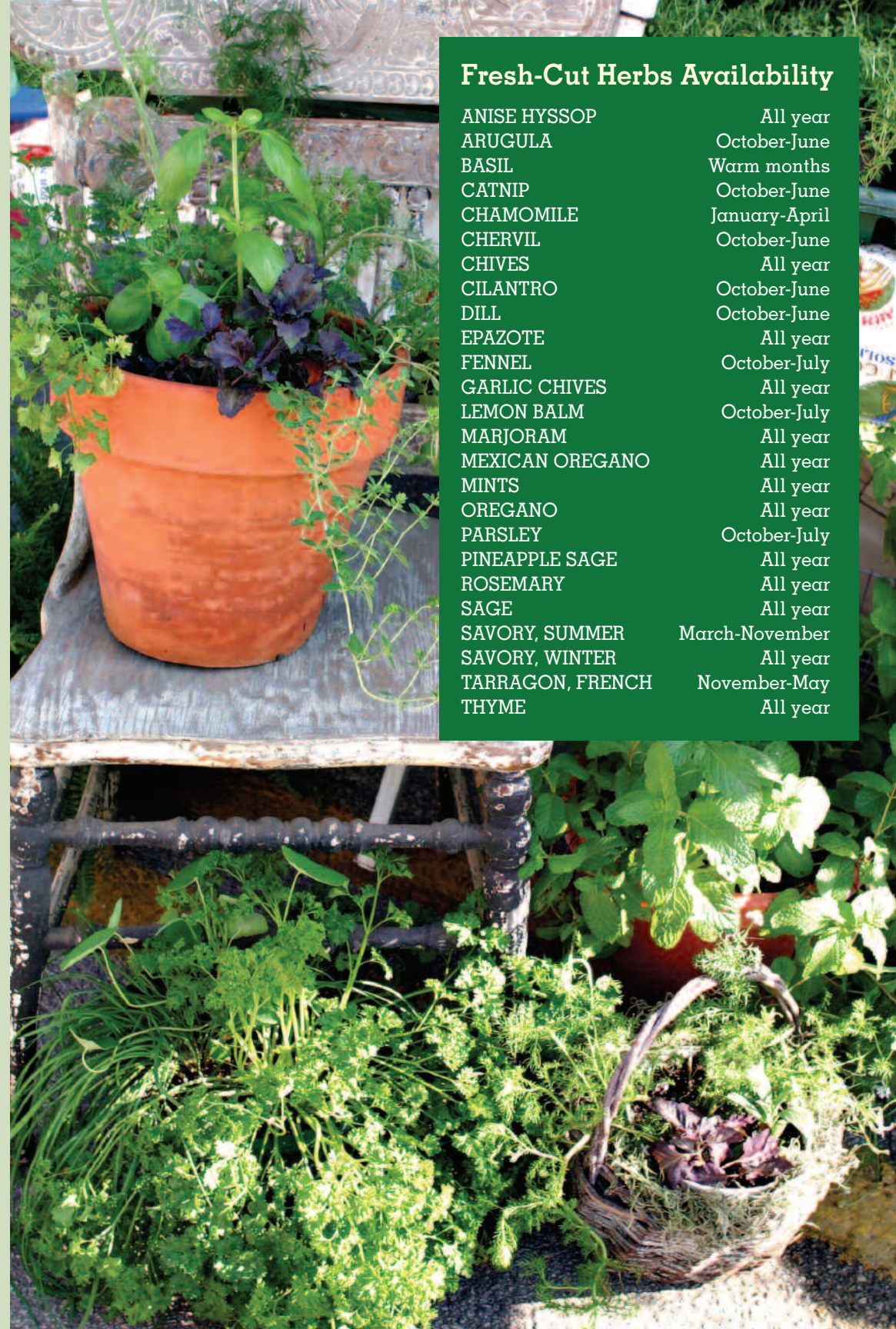
GO TEXAN is the Texas Department of Agriculture's unified marketing initiative promoting products grown in Texas. When freshness counts, GO TEXAN. With additional help from the Herb Association of Texas, finding flavors to savor can be a snap.

For more information on the Herb Association of Texas, go to <http://texasherbs.org>. For details on GO TEXAN visit www.gotexan.org or call (877) 99GO-TEX.



Fresh-Cut Herbs Availability

ANISE HYSSOP	All year
ARUGULA	October-June
BASIL	Warm months
CATNIP	October-June
CHAMOMILE	January-April
CHERVIL	October-June
CHIVES	All year
CILANTRO	October-June
DILL	October-June
EPAZOTE	All year
FENNEL	October-July
GARLIC CHIVES	All year
LEMON BALM	October-July
MARJORAM	All year
MEXICAN OREGANO	All year
MINTS	All year
OREGANO	All year
PARSLEY	October-July
PINEAPPLE SAGE	All year
ROSEMARY	All year
SAGE	All year
SAVORY, SUMMER	March-November
SAVORY, WINTER	All year
TARRAGON, FRENCH	November-May
THYME	All year



Top Herbs of TEXAS



BASIL: Plentiful in its many varieties and originating in the far eastern countries of India, Pakistan and Thailand, basil may best be known for flavoring Italian food. Versatile in its use, basil has a clove-like fragrance and flavor and grows equally well in hanging baskets, windowsill pots and herb and flower gardens. Used primarily as a finely chopped garnish, basil works well with tomatoes, mayonnaise, fish and chicken.

Basil, Bath and Beyond – Not only is basil useful in the kitchen, it can add refreshing fragrance to a bath or be used in sprigs to deter flies and mosquitoes.

CILANTRO: Used in leaf and seed form (known as coriander), cilantro is sometimes called Chinese parsley. Well-known in Texas for its use in Mexican foods and salsa, cilantro is pungent in taste and smell. Delicate in its composition, cilantro is best used fresh as opposed to frozen or otherwise stored.



Viva Cilantro! – Besides being an essential ingredient in Mexican food, cilantro is widely used in Chinese, Indian and Thai dishes. It also is used in potpourri.



MEXICAN MINT MARIGOLD: Also known as Texas Tarragon, the leaves and flowers of this herb also can be used for a variety of flavorings. Use leaves in egg and fish dishes. Leaves or flowers work well with chicken, fish, vegetables and turkey stuffing. Use fresh for best results.

A Taste of Tarragon – Oily in its consistency, tarragon is widely used in French cuisine and also makes a flavorful addition to green and fruit salads, herb butter and vinegar.



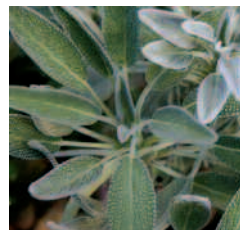
OREGANO: Characterized by dark green leaves, pink or purple flowers and wooden stems, oregano requires plenty of sun for ideal growth. Oregano's dried leaves add zest to poultry, salads, soups, casseroles, rice and vegetables such as tomatoes and beans. The herb also is a mainstay on Italian dishes such as pizza and pasta.

Do You Know Oregano? – Best-known as an Italian food flavoring, oregano is presumed to have originated in Greece. Besides enhancing the flavor of food, it also may be used in potpourri.

ROSEMARY: An evergreen shrub that produces blue flowers in the spring and summer, rosemary adds a slight hint of pine flavor when finely chopped and added sparingly to soups, stews and teas. In larger sprig quantities, rosemary can be grilled over pork chops or tucked inside slits of roasted lamb.



Relax with Rosemary – Rosemary has been reported to help relax muscles, calm nerves and soothe upset stomachs when distilled into a tonic, added to baths or boiled into tea.



SAGE: A decorative gray-green shrub with occasional purple leaves and blue-tinted summertime flowers, sage is a versatile herb used to season foods as varied as pork, duck, ham, veal and fish. In Middle Eastern cultures, sage has been known to spice up salads.

Sage Advice – Have a sore throat? The antiseptic qualities of sage may come to the rescue. Add two teaspoons of dried leaves to a cup of boiling water and steep for 10 minutes.

THYME: A gray-green herb with pale pink summertime flowers, thyme is used to enhance the flavor of fish, poultry and beef. It also makes a great addition to chicken and fish marinades when mixed with olive oil or red-wine vinegar. Thyme also may be found in tea, cottage cheese and butter.



Thyme is Right – Known for its antibacterial and antifungal properties, thyme is found in many medicinal products including mouthwash and vapor rubs. Like many of its herbal counterparts, thyme also may be used in teas.

Storage and Handling

To fully appreciate the taste of Texas herbs, store and handle with care according to the following guidelines.

Storage Temperature:

Oregano	48° to 50° F (8.9° to 10° C)
Basil	50° to 55° F (10° to 12.8° C)
All others	38° to 42° F (3.3° to 5.8° C)

A note about basil: Temperatures lower than 48° F (8.9° C), will cause basil to turn black.

Basil doesn't keep well in the refrigerator. Instead, place the cut stems in water and keep them on the windowsill. Sprigs stored this way will remain fresh a week or more.

Typical shelf life: bag, 5+ days; tub, 7+ days when stored at the proper temperature.

Mist: Packaged herbs retain moisture so do not mist. Watering herbs creates condensation in the bags, causing premature deterioration. However, if you must remove herbs from bags for display purposes, it is important to keep them damp. If herbs become dry from air exposure, leaf damage will occur.

Put herbs, except basil, in tightly sealed bags, then place in a cooler as soon as they arrive. Mint, basil, parsley, cilantro, epazote and Mexican mint marigold can be stored in a jar of water at room temperature.

Inside Secrets

Overcooking fresh herbs causes them to lose their fragrance and delicate flavors. For best results, add fresh herbs to food during the final stages of cooking. To flavor the water used to cook vegetables, chop and stir herbs into the mix or place them in a cheesecloth bag.

Basil does not retain its flavor when dried. Instead, layer basil between sheets of waxed paper and freeze. The leaves will darken when frozen this way, but you will be pleasantly surprised at how well they retain aroma and flavor. You also can fill ice cube trays with chopped basil. Cover with water and then freeze.

Rosemary leaves can be harvested any time. Harvest no more than you can use fresh, as they lose most of their flavor when dried.

Thyme has a strong piquant or lemony flavor. For fresh use, the flavor is best just before flowering.

For the best flavor, add oregano in the last few minutes of cooking. The flavor can become bitter if cooked more than 30 minutes.

Flavorful Recipes

Red and Yellow Tomatoes with Basil Blossoms

Recipe provided by Fredericksburg Herb Farm

Ingredients

2 large Texas-grown red tomatoes, sliced
2 large Texas-grown yellow tomatoes, sliced
1/3 pound mozzarella cheese, thinly sliced
3 T. extra virgin herb olive oil
Favorite balsamic vinegar
2 shallots, very thinly sliced
Salt and pepper to taste
12 basil leaves, finely shredded
1 T. basil blossoms

On a simple serving platter, alternate red and yellow tomato slices with mozzarella slices. In a small bowl, mix the olive oil, balsamic vinegar, shallots, salt and pepper. Pour the dressing over the tomatoes. Serve at room temperature.



Garlicky Rosemary Shrimp

From *The Herb Garden Cookbook: The Complete Gardening and Gourmet Guide*, Second Edition by Lucinda Hutson, Copyright © 1987, 1992, 1998, 2003 by Lucinda Hutson. Courtesy of The University of Texas Press.

Ingredients

1 pound medium unpeeled Texas shrimp, rinsed and patted dry
1/4 cup best quality olive oil
2 T. butter
2 large heads garlic, separated into cloves
2 bay leaves
2 tsp. dried oregano
3 T. chopped fresh rosemary, stems removed
1/2 tsp. crushed dried red chile pepper
(or more)
Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste
2-3 whole dried red cayenne peppers
1/2 cup dry white wine
2 T. lemon vinegar or white wine vinegar
Juice of one lemon
Freshly grated nutmeg



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KA CHAMPION

Heat olive oil and butter in a 12-inch cast-iron skillet. Add the garlic cloves and sauté for 2 minutes over medium heat; do not brown. Add the shrimp and bay leaves and continue to sauté, shaking the pan frequently.

Follow with the herbs and crushed chile pepper, salt and pepper and toss well. Add the wine, vinegar and lemon juice, and simmer until

shrimp is pink and tender and garlic is slightly soft (approximately 5 minutes). Do not overcook. Before serving, adjust seasonings and sprinkle generously with freshly grated nutmeg.

Serve in bowls garnished with lemon slices and red cayenne peppers. Peel shrimp at table. This tastes wonderful as is, or serve over spinach fettuccine tossed with butter and freshly grated Parmesan, with cracked pepper on the side. Also tastes good the next day served at room temperature. Serves 4.

NOTE: Traditionally, the shrimp is cooked until the shells are crunchy, and the shrimp is eaten, shells and all. The garlic cloves are also cooked in their skin, and eaten by squeezing the tender garlic clove from its skin into the mouth.

Cilantro Seasoned Potatoes with Garlic Lime Butter

From *The Herb Garden Cookbook: The Complete Gardening and Gourmet Guide*, Second Edition by Lucinda Hutson, Copyright © 1987, 1992, 1998, 2003 by Lucinda Hutson. Courtesy of The University of Texas Press.

Ingredients

2 pounds medium-size Texas new potatoes, washed and quartered
2 T. butter
3 T. olive oil
4 large cloves garlic, minced
4 T. fresh lime juice
2 tsp. coriander seeds, freshly ground
1 bunch green onions with some tops, chopped
1 cup fresh cilantro sprigs, loosely chopped
1 T. pure mild chile powder
Salt and freshly ground pepper
1/4 cup shredded Parmesan cheese

Cover the potatoes with cold salted water and bring to a boil: reduce heat and simmer about 12 minutes, but do not overcook.

Meanwhile, in a small saucepan, melt the butter and olive oil along with the garlic, lime juice and ground coriander. Drain the cooked potatoes and toss gently with the garlic butter, adding the chopped onions, cilantro, chile powder, salt and pepper. Serve potatoes warm or at room temperature, generously sprinkled with shredded Parmesan and chile powder prior to serving.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KA CHAMPION

Growing Herbs at Home

"The soil is the stomach of the plant; you feed it and the plant feeds you."

— John Dromgoole, owner, The Natural Gardener, Austin, Texas

Growing herbs at home takes little space and ensures freshness. Liven up your culinary creations by following these herb-growing guidelines:

- ☛ Place herbs where they can receive six hours of sunshine daily.
- ☛ Plant in window boxes, clay pots, wooden containers or raised beds.
- ☛ Keep in mind how large the plant will grow and accommodate as needed.
- ☛ Raise beds to allow for drainage and root development.
- ☛ Water in the morning and keep soil moist, especially in the summer.
- ☛ Keep at least two inches of mulch around plants for protection of tender vegetation. As the mulch breaks down, it will add additional humus to the soil.
- ☛ Know what you grow. Some herbs grow well from seeds while others grow best from transplants.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KA CHAMPION

Choose a Theme for Your Herb Garden

Grow herbs from your favorite part of the world or herbs used in your favorite ethnic foods. Here are a few examples of themes for your herb garden:

Mexican herb gardens and dishes contain cilantro, Mexican oregano, Mexican mint marigold (also known as Texas Tarragon) and Yerba Buena (also known as mint). Don't forget to include a few hot peppers to spice up your garden.

Italian herb gardens contain basil, Italian parsley, oregano and arugula. There are many more Italian herbs that will grow very well here in Texas.

French herbs include thyme, marjoram, chives, lavender and curly parsley.

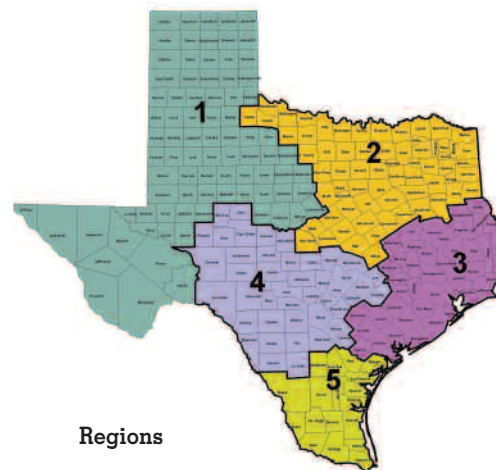
Southeast Asian herbs include mint, cilantro, lemon grass and Chinese chives.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KA CHAMPION

Meet the Producers

The following is a list of GO TEXAN herb producers:



Regions

Region 1

ANTELOPE HILLS GARDEN

P.O. Box 1148
Marfa, Texas 79843
Phone: (432) 729-3987
Contact: Allan McClane

EL COYOTE RANCH

P.O. Box 127
Sylvester, Texas 79560
Phone: (325) 993-4524
Web site:
www.elcoyoteranch.homestead.com
Contact: Cynthia Stevens

PECAN GROVES HERBS

4908 IH 20 West
Clyde, Texas 79510
Phone: (325) 893-5363
Fax: (325) 893-1963
E-mail: vteach@clydetx.com
Contact: Beverly Reeves

SANTA MARIA LAVENDER

P.O. Box 1707
Shallowater, Texas 79363
Phone: (806) 928-1612
Fax: (806) 832-5939
Web site:
www.santamarialavender.com
Contact: Howard Huntzinger

WINDMILL SOAPS

P.O. Box 846
Hereford, Texas 79045
Phone: (806) 357-2378
Web site: www.windmillsoaps.com
Contact: Cindy Whitaker



Region 2

AKIN FARM

9820 CR 353
Terrell, Texas 75161
Phone: (972) 551-1189
E-mail: akinfarmorganic@aol.com
Contact: Wendy Akin

BARKING CAT FARM

421 Chippendale Drive
Heath, Texas 75032
Phone: (972) 772-4355
Contact: Kimberly I. Martin

BRAWLEY FARMS

1411 Cass Road
Tolar, Texas 76476
Phone: (254) 835-4396
Contact: Oma L. Brawley

GENERATION FARMS

1109 North McKinney
Rice, Texas 75155
Phone: (903) 326-4263
Fax: (903) 326-6511
Contact: Ethan Milkes

GARDEN INSPIRATIONS

108 Ridgecrest
Waxahachie, Texas 75165
Phone: (214) 497-3918
Web site:
www.gardeninspirations-tx.com
Contact: Marilyn Simmons

HAMILTON FARMS AND GREENHOUSES

P.O. Box 336
Maud, Texas 75567
Phone: (903) 585-5432
Web site: www.hamiltonherbfarm.com
Contact: David B. Hamilton

HAPPILY EVER AFTER GARDEN AND NURSERY

P.O. Box 2278
Athens, Texas 75751
Phone: (903) 677-8722
Fax: (903) 676-4197
Contact: Leslie A. Wardell

LAVENDER RIDGE

2391 CR 178
Gainesville, Texas 76240
Phone: (940) 665-6938
Web site: www.lavenderridgefarms.com
Contact: Jerry Ware

NORTEX WHOLESALE NURSERY

1300 W. Brown Street
Wylie, TX 75098
Phone: (972) 442-5451
Fax: (972) 442-5919
Web site: www.nortexgrows.com
E-mail: nhargis@nortexgrows.com
Contact: Nancy Hargis

R AND E PLANTS

2601 Mineral Wells Highway
Weatherford, Texas 76088
Phone: (817) 594-4499
Fax: (817) 594-1232
Contact: Ross Procter



RENEGADE RANCH

24062 CR 3118
Winona, Texas 75792
Phone: (903) 988-9751
Web site: www.myrenegaderanch.com
Contact: Patricia R. Roberts

SINGLE CREEK COVE

6466 CR 45600
Blossom, Texas 75416
Phone: (903) 674-5514
Fax: (903) 679-3006
E-mail: elmaddox@1starnet.com
Contact: Eileen Maddox

T'LEE'S BEES NATURAL COUNTRY HONEY

3820 Country Vista Drive
Burleson, Texas 76028
Phone: (817) 561-9191
E-mail: tlesbees@mac.com

Region 3

ABSOLUTELY ORGANIC

1418 Mission Springs Drive
Katy, Texas 77450
Phone: (281) 579-1664
Fax: (281) 579-8979
Web site:
www.absolutelyorganic-toxicfree.com
Contact: Ramona Cazenave

ANTIQUE ROSE EMPORIUM

9300 Lueckemeyer
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: (979) 836-9051
Fax: (979) 836-0928
Web site: www.wearerose.com
Contact: Mike Shoup



ELLISON'S GREENHOUSES

2107 E Stone
Brenham, Texas 77833
Phone: (979) 836-6011
Fax: (979) 830-1455
Web site: www.ellisonsgreenhouses.com
Contact: PJ Ellison Kalil



FARM FRESH SOAPS

RR 1 Box 188
Calvert, Texas 77837
Phone: (254) 746-7519
Web site: www.farmfreshsoaps.com
Contact: Chrissy Daley



THE HERB COTTAGE

442 CR 233
Hallettsville, Texas 77964
Phone: (979) 562-2153
Fax: (979) 562-2153
Web site: www.theherbcottage.com
Contact: Cyndy Meredith



HYDROGOURMET PRODUCE

P.O. Box 694
Lissie, Texas 77454
Phone: (713) 952-5775
Fax: (713) 729-0111
Web site: www.hydrogourmet.com
Contact: Michael Cooper

ROSEHILL TEXAS LLC

P.O. Box 205
Tomball, Texas 77377
Phone: (281) 351-2641
Fax: (281) 357-0099
Web site: www.rosehillherbs.com
Contact: Kenneth Schultz

THE SACANDAGA HERBALIST

13161 Hopes Creek
Meadow Circle
College Station, Texas 77845
Phone: (979) 690-1252
Fax: (979) 690-1252
Web site: www.wendytheherbalist.com
Contact: Dr. Wendy Keeney-Kennicutt



THE VILLAGE BOTANICA INC

14182 Cochran Road
Waller, Texas 77484
Phone: (979) 921-0000
Fax: (713) 356-9933
Contact: Carlton C. Colmenares

WILD THYMES HERB FARM

167 PR 6124
Woodville, Texas 75979
Phone: (409) 283-3503
Web site: www.wildthymesherbfarm.com
Contact: Melda Siebe



Region 4

ANNIE'S SOAP BARN LLC

P.O. Box 290465
Kerrville, Texas 78029
Phone: (830) 739-0931
Fax: (830) 896-0931
Web site: www.anniessobapbarn.com
Contact: Bobbie Obrien

BELLA VERDI FARMS

P.O. Box 1204
Dripping Springs, Texas 78620
Phone: (512) 858-9201
Fax: (512) 858-9202
Contact: Darrell J. Joseph

BLUEBONNET HYDROPONIC PRODUCE INC.

12701 Ware Sequin Road
Schertz, Texas 78154
Phone: (210) 659-9300
Contact: Shirley Olivier

BLUE SKY BATH COMPANY

P.O. Box 4053
Lago Vista, Texas 78645
Phone: (512) 267-7578
Web site:
www.blueskybathcompany.com
Contact: Michelle Lopez

FLINTROCK HILL

10981 FM 20
Kingsbury, Texas 78638
Phone: (830) 639-4686
Contact: Arnold F. Pomrenke

FREDERICKSBURG HERB FARM

P.O. Box 927
 Fredericksburg, Texas 78624
 Phone: (830) 997-8615
 Website: www.fredericksburgherbfarm.com
 Contact: Bill Varney

GABRIEL VALLEY FARMS

440 Old Hwy 29 E
 Georgetown, Texas 78626
 Phone: (512) 930-0923
 Fax: (877) 744-2936
 Web site: www.gabrielvalleyfarms.com
 Contact: Cathy Slaughter

**HEART OF THE HILLS LAVENDER**

P.O. Box 249
 London, Texas 76854
 Phone: (325) 475-3211
 Web site:
www.heartofthehillslavender.com
 Contact: Karl Bednarz

HERB PHARM

P.O. Box 460491
 San Antonio, Texas 78246
 Phone: (210) 404-4372
 Fax: (210) 404-6453
 Contact: W. Sheneman

LAVENDER AND OLD LACE

P.O. Box 294298
 Kerville, Texas 78029
 Phone: (830) 257-6732
 E-mail: lavenderl@kct.com
 Contact: Beth Patterson

THE HERB BAR

200 West Mary
 Austin, Texas 78704
 Phone: (512) 444-6251
 Web site: www.theherbbar.com
 Contact: Twila Willis

MARR'S GARDEN

418 Meadow View
 Adkins, Texas 78101
 Phone: (210) 649-1853
 E-mail: marrsgardens@aol.com
 Contact: John Marrs

MONUMENT CAFÉ

P.O. Box 1757
 Georgetown, Texas 78627
 Phone: (512) 635-3238
 Fax: (512) 233-2324
 Web site: www.themonumentcafe.com
 Contact: Rusty Winkstern

MYSTIC MOMENTS

413 6th Street
 Marble Falls, Texas 78654
 Phone: (830) 693-2455
 Fax: (830) 798-1830
 Web site:
www.mysticmomentsonline.com
 Contact: Karen Westerman

NATURES HERB FARM

7193 Old Talley Road # 7
 San Antonio, Texas 78253
 Phone: (210) 688-9421
 Fax: (210) 688-9042
 Contact: Mary Dunford

ONION CREEK FARM

1611 Creek Road
 Dripping Springs, Texas 78620
 Phone: (512) 858-1090
 Contact: Marianne Simmons

PATTY'S HERBS

P.O. Box 246
 Pearsall, Texas 78061
 Phone: (830) 334-3944
 Fax: (830) 334-3935
 Contact: Charles R. Johnson

PLANT ODYSSEY INC.

7101 Niederwald Strasse
 Niederwald, Texas 78640
 Phone: (512) 398-2714
 Fax: (512) 376-6325
 E-mail: plantodyssey@worldnet.att.net
 Contact: Kent Collum

PURE LUCK DAIRY INC.

P.O. Box 222
 Dripping Springs, Texas 78620
 Phone: (512) 858-1041
 Web site: www.purelucktexas.com
 Contact: Amelia Sweethardt

R SCOTT ENTERPRISES INC

2574 FM 1343
 Devine, Texas 78016
 Phone: (830) 931-6415
 Fax: (830) 931-6425
 Contact: Peggy J. Scott

SWEET DREAMS LAVENDER FARM

10600 Wagon Road W
 Austin, Texas 78736
 Phone: (512) 422-9036
 Contact: Ann Jones

TEXAS HERBAL BODY SOLUTIONS

3707 Epperson Trail
 Austin, Texas 78732
 Phone: (512) 266-8141
 Fax: (512) 266-0920
 Web site:
www.texasherbalbodiesolutions.com
 Contact: Hollie Mulhaupt

**TEXAS LAVENDER**

9201 Wamptan Way
 Austin, Texas 78749
 Phone: (512) 585-1295
 Web site: www.texaslavender.com
 Contact: Randy Graybill

TEXAS LAVENDER HILLS FARM AND MARKET

5110 Kendalia Road
 Blanco, Texas 78606
 Phone: (830) 833-9138
 Web site: www.texaslavenderhills.com
 Contact: Jill Hunter

TEXAS MEDICINALS

1203 E 7th Street
 Austin, Texas 78702
 Phone: (512) 476-1521
 Contact: Virginia L. Webb

TRIPLE L FARMS AND TRADING POST

P.O. Box 2288
 Fredericksburg, Texas 78624
 Phone: (830) 990-4195
 Fax: (512) 263-8936
 Web site: www.lllfarms.com
 Contact: Billy Johnson

THE VEGETABLE CART

16712 FM 1100
 Elgin, Texas 78621
 Phone: (512) 281-3699
 Web site: www.thevegetablecart.com
 Contact: Candace Coley

A WILD SOAP BAR

21407 Union Lee Church Road
 Manor, Texas 78653
 Phone: (512) 272-4058
 Fax: (512) 272-8850
 Web site: www.awildsoapbar.com
 Contact: Maggie Hanus

WRIGHT'S NURSERY

6040 FM 2657
 Briggs, Texas 78608
 Phone: (512) 489-2239
 Fax: (512) 489-2837
 Web site: www.wrightsnursery.net
 E-mail: sales@wrightsnursery.net
 Contact: Barbara Wright

Region 5**JASTER FARM**

4210 CR 3767
 Portland, Texas 78374
 Phone: (361) 643-4053
 Contact: John R. Jaster



PHOTO COURTESY OF KA CHAMPION

Hey Kids... Let's Get Picking!



Moms and Dads -- Bring the kids out for some Hill Country goodness at Arnosky Farms

Let the kids pick fresh vegetables and create their own beautiful flower bouquets.



You and your kids can tour 20 acres of flower production fields, pick fresh vegetables and flowers, hike a 100 acre Hill Country farm, hide in the sunflower fort or relax with a cool refreshment.

May 19, 2007

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

With a special appearance by Lone Star Emmy Winners

**THE
BISCUIT
BROTHERS**



Kid's favorites **Clifford**, and **Maya and Miguel** will also be there

Parents – Meet the folks behind
KLRU's "Central Texas Gardener"


CentralTexas
Gardener



TEXAS SPECIALTY CUT FLOWERS

Arnosky Farms - 12550 FM 2325, Wimberley, TX 78676

From Austin: Take 290 West approx. 22 miles from the Y at Oak Hill. Turn left onto FM-165. Go 9 miles. Look for the Blue Barn at the corner of FM-165 and FM-2325.



GO TEXAN.

COMMISSIONER TODD STAPLES
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE





GO TEXAN.

COMMISSIONER TODD STAPLES
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

P.O. Box 12847 • Austin, Texas 78711

Toll Free: 1.877.99GOTEX

Fax: 512.463.7843 • www.PickTexas.com

For the hearing impaired: Voice 800.735.2988 and
TTY 800.735.2989

GO TEXAN and design/logo is a certification mark of the Texas Department of Agriculture.

TDA M 576B

Farm-Fresh Goodness
Your Handy Guide to
Texas Farmers Markets and
Pick-Your-Own Locations



COMMISSIONER TODD STAPLES
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

GO TEXAN.

Texas Produce: Fresh and Fantastic!

There's nothing more satisfying than a basket full of sun-kissed corn, or tastier than a freshly picked tomato, peach or cucumber. Your local farmers market is a wonderful place to find tempting, Texas-grown produce at the peak of its natural goodness, along with unexpected treasures such as fresh flowers, herbs and local jams and jellies. Visit one of the state's pick-your-own locations, and you can harvest-by-hand delectable, farm-fresh berries, pears, apples, peppers, peas and more.

The Texas Department of Agriculture helps market and promote Texas agricultural products through the GO TEXAN program. Look for the GO TEXAN logo to know you're getting the best of Texas. For more information on GO TEXAN, visit www.gotexan.org or call (877) 99GO-TEX. For additional details on what Texas grows, visit PickTexas.com.



Texas is one of the largest producers of fresh fruits and vegetables, so your choices are always endless. More than 60 commercial fruit and vegetable crops are grown in the Lone Star State – from apples to zucchini and everything in between.

Use this handy guide as a quick reference to the state certified farmers market locations and other opportunities to pick the very best of Texas. (Some markets are seasonal and certain products are subject to availability. Always check before traveling.)



It's Official:

State fruit: **Texas red grapefruit**

State vegetable: **Texas sweet onion**

State pepper: **Jalapeno**

State tree: **Pecan**

State fiber and fabric: **Cotton**

Texas Produce Availability

Name	Nutrition Information	Months Available
Apples	C, F	July-Nov.
Blueberries	C, F	May-July
Broccoli*	A, C, F	Nov.-April
Cabbage*	C, F	Year Round
Cantaloupes	A, C, F	May-July; Oct.-Nov.
Carrots	A, C, F	Aug.-May
Celery	F	Dec.-April
Cucumbers	C	April-Dec.
Grapefruit	C, F	Sept.-April
Green Onions	A, C, F	May-Oct.
Greens	A, C, F	Oct.-April
Herbs		Year Round
Honeydew	C	May-July; Oct.-Nov.
Mushrooms		Year Round
Onions	F	Mar.-Aug.
Oranges	C, F	Sept.-April
Peas, field	A, F	April-Dec.
Peaches	C, F	April-Aug.
Peppers, bell	C	May-June; Aug.-Dec.
Peppers, chili	A, C, F	May-Dec.
Potatoes	C, F	April-Sept.
Pumpkins	A, C, F	Sept.-Nov.
Spinach	A, C, F	Nov.-April
Squash	A, C, F	April-Nov.
Sweet Potatoes	A, C, F	Aug.-May
Tomatoes	A, C, F	May-Nov.
Turnips	C, F	Year Round
Watermelons	C	May-Nov.

Nutrition Information Key

A—Vitamin A C—Vitamin C F—Fiber

* Cruciferous vegetable — These selections supply at least 10 percent U.S. RDA for vitamins A or C, or at least 1-3 grams of dietary fiber per serving.



Texas Farmers Markets

In the Market for Fresh Produce?

Here's Your Source!

Certified Texas Farmers Markets

If you want the freshest locally grown produce, look no further than a Texas farmers market. Food lovers know that nothing compares with that just-picked flavor. In addition to perfectly ripened fruits and vegetables, you can often find fresh-cut flowers, tasty jams, tempting jellies, quality cheeses and other specialty items. And don't forget friendly, relaxed atmosphere where you can ask for recipes, discuss cooking and storing tips, and pick up other helpful information.



Quick Facts:

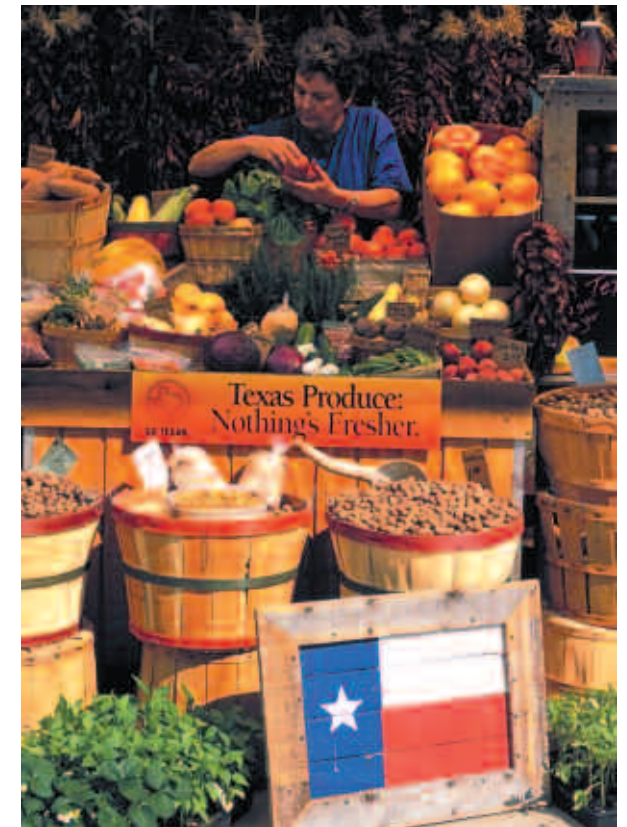
There are over 100 certified farmers markets in Texas.

Approximately 1,045 small producers sell products at TDA certified farmers markets.

Season: April 15-October 30 for most markets.

Certified Texas farmers markets are listed in this guide by city with counties noted. Remember to verify the markets' hours, seasons and locations since they can vary or change quickly. A Texas county map is provided on the inside of the back page for reference.

A small sample of what Texas farmers markets have in store for you: apples, asparagus, blackberries, blueberries, broccoli, cabbage, cantaloupes, carrots, celery, cucumbers, green onions, greens, herbs, honeydews, nectarines, onions, pears, peas, peaches, bell peppers, potatoes, new potatoes, pumpkins, spinach, strawberries, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, turnips and watermelons.



Fresh Produce Selection Tips

If your only experience with fresh fruits and vegetables has been in the produce aisle of your neighborhood grocery store, you're in for a real treat. You'll be amazed at how fresh and satisfying meals prepared with produce you've harvested with your own hands can be. To make the best choices for your table, follow these general guidelines:

Apples: Select apples firm to the touch, with smooth, clean skin and good color.

Blackberries: Plump berries are juicy berries. Look for luscious, well-colored berries.

Blueberries: The operative word here is blue — choose brightly hued blueberries with a fresh, dewy appearance.

Cantaloupe: While some advocate thumping a cantaloupe to determine freshness, we recommend that you go with looks and smell. The perfect cantaloupe should be yellowish in color, with a fresh aroma when held to your nose.

Carrots: For carrots that will make you the envy of rabbits everywhere, select firm, smooth and well-colored specimens with a good shape.

Celery: Fresh celery should be crisp and clean. Check for celery stalks that break easily.

Corn: On or off the cob, fresh corn is a welcome addition to any picnic, cookout or celebration. Look for well-colored green husks with silk ends that are free of decay.

Cucumbers: Whether you're planning on making pickles or adding some variety to your salad without the calories, select well-shaped cucumbers that are firm, with a deep green color.

Greens: Again, take a hint from the name, and look for fresh, plump, crisp green leaves with no signs of wilting or yellowing.

Onions: There's no need for tears when you pick green and crisp onions with bright green tops and a firm white base.

Peaches: Pick fresh peaches that yield to gentle pressure and have a yellowish creamy color.

Pears: It's all about appearance with this fruit. Choose bright colored pears with a fresh aroma

Peppers: Pick more than just a peck of peppers. Go for firm peppers with bright colored skins.

Plums: You'll be plum amazed at this fruit's fresh-picked taste! Choose bright-colored fresh plums that yield to gentle pressure.

Potatoes: Choose smooth and clean firm spuds with good color and as few eyes as possible.

Texas Farmers Markets

ABILENE

Taylor County

Abilene Area Farmers Market

Location: Corner of North 2nd St. and Mesquite

Days of Operation: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. until sell-out
Phone: (325) 548-2467

AMARILLO

Potter County

Golden Spread Farmers Market Inc.

Location: 3701 Plains Blvd.

Days of Operation: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. until sell-out
Phone: (806) 383-1366
E-mail: comarronorganics1@cox.net

AUSTIN

Travis County

All-Tex Growers Association

Location: 6701 Burnet Rd.

Days of Operation: Monday - Saturday
Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Phone: (512) 464-1002

Angel Valley Farm-Market

Location 2: Asian American Cultural Center, 11713 Jollyville Rd.

Days of Operation: Wednesday;
March-December

Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Phone: (512) 236-0074
Fax: (512) 236-0098

E-mail: suzanne@sustainablefoodcenter.org
Web site: www.austinfarmersmarket.org

Austin Farmers Market Association

Location 1: Downtown, Republic Square Park, 4th and Guadalupe

Days of Operation: Saturday
Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Phone: (512) 236-0074

Fax: (512) 236-0098

E-mail: suzanne@sustainablefoodcenter.org
Web site: www.austinfarmersmarket.org

Location 2: Montopolis Neighborhood Market, 1416 Montopolis

Days of Operation: Tuesday

Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Phone: (512) 236-0074

Fax: (512) 236-0098

E-mail: suzanne@sustainablefoodcenter.org

Web site: www.austinfarmersmarket.org

Location 3: Dove Springs Neighborhood Market, 5405 Pleasant Valley

Days of Operation: Wednesday

Hours of Operation: noon to 3 p.m.

Phone: (512) 236-0074

Fax: (512) 236-0098

E-mail: suzanne@sustainablefoodcenter.org

Web site: www.austinfarmersmarket.org

Location 4: Triangle Park, 46th St. between Lamar and Guadalupe

Days of Operation: Wednesday; May 2 -

September 26; October 3 - December 26

Hours of Operation: May-September 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.; October 3 - December 26 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Phone: (512) 236-0074

Fax: (512) 236-0098

E-mail: suzanne@sustainablefoodcenter.org

Web site: www.austinfarmersmarket.org

Location 5: Rosewood Zaragosa Community Health Center, 2802 Webberville Rd.

Days of Operation: Tuesday; May 29 - July 31

Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Phone: (512) 236-0074

Fax: (512) 236-0098

E-mail: suzanne@sustainablefoodcenter.org

Web site: www.austinfarmersmarket.org

Location 6: Saint Johns, Virginia L. Brown Recreation Center, 7500 Blessing Ave.

Days of Operation: Wednesday; May 30 - July 25

Hours of Operation: 8 - 11 a.m.

Phone: (512) 236-0074

Fax: (512) 236-0098

E-mail: suzanne@sustainablefoodcenter.org

Web site: www.austinfarmersmarket.org

Green Gate Farm — Market

Location: 8604 FM 969

(Corner of Martin Luther King and Decker Lane)

Days of Operation: Fridays - February to December

Hours of Operation: Noon to dark

South Austin Farmers Market

Location: 2910 South Congress Ave.
 Days of Operation: Saturday
 Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Phone: (830) 914-3756
 E-mail: patsveggiesorganicfarm@msn.com
 Web site:
www.southaustinfarmersmarket.com

BARTONVILLE**Denton County****Downtown Farmers Market (Northside)**

Location: 2650 FM 407
 Days of Operation: Saturday
 Hours of Operation: 8:00 a.m. until sell-out
 Phone: 254-646-3341

BASTROP**Bastrop County****River Valley Farmers Market**

Location: 1308 Chestnut St.
 Days of Operation: Friday, Saturday
 Hours of Operation: Friday, 1 to 6 p.m.;
 Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Phone: (512) 303-6793
 Web site: www.rivervalleyfarmersmarket.org

BELTON**Bell County****Bell County Farmers Market Association**

Location 1: Corner of Central and
 Penelope St.
 Days of Operation: Saturday
 Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. until sell-out
 Phone: (254) 778-2401

BROWNWOOD**Brown County****Brownwood Area Farmers Market**

Location: 400 Block Brown St., behind Turtle
 Restaurant
 Days of Operation: Tuesday, Thursday,
 Saturday
 Hours of Operation: Tuesday and Thursday
 3 p.m. until sell-out; Saturday 7 a.m. until
 sell-out
 Phone: (325) 646-1422

BRYAN**Brazos County****Brazos Valley Farmers Market**

Location: 201 North Texas Ave.
 Days of Operation: Saturday
 Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. to noon
 Phone: (936) 870-4099
 Fax: (979) 775-0026
 E-mail: gendron@suddenlinkmail.com
 Web site:
www.brazosvalleyfarmersmarket.com

Independent Growers Market

Location: 1104 West William J. Bryan Pkwy.
 Days of Operation: Wednesday, Saturday
 Hours of Operation: 7 to 11 a.m.
 Phone: (979) 589-2389

BUDA**Hays County****San Marcos/New Braunfels Farmers Market Association**

Location: 100 South Houston St
 Days of Operation: Saturday
 Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to noon
 Phone: (830) 935-3159
 E-mail: htfs@grtc.com
 Web site: www.sanmarcosfarmersmarket.com

BULVERDE**Comal County****San Marcos/New Braunfels Farmers Market Association**

Location: FM 1863 off of Hwy. 281 from
 San Antonio or Blanco
 Days of Operation: Saturday
 Hours of Operation: 3 to 6 p.m.
 Phone: (830) 935-3159
 E-mail: htfs@grtc.com
 Web site: www.sanmarcosfarmersmarket.com

COLLEGE STATION**Brazos County****Brazos Valley Farmers Market Association**

Location: 1000 Krenak Tap Rd.
 Days of Operation: Wednesday
 Hours of Operation: 4 to 7 p.m.
 Phone: (936) 870-4099
 Fax: (979) 775-0026
 E-mail: gendron@suddenlinkmail.com
 Web site:
www.brazosvalleyfarmersmarket.com

COPPERAS COVE**Coryell County****Coppers Cove Farmers Market Association**

Location: 1506 Veterans Ave.
 Days of Operation: Monday, Saturday
 Hours of Operation: Monday 3 to 6 p.m.;
 Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Phone: (254) 547-0037

CORPUS CHRISTI**Nueces County****Area Farmers Market Association**

Location: 4258 Baldwin St., Corner of
 Baldwin and Agnes
 Days of Operation: Wednesday, Thursday
 Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 Phone: (361) 776-2535
 Fax: (361) 776-2535

The New Corpus Christi Farmers Market

Location: 11330 Leopard St.
 Days of Operation: Saturday
 Hours of Operation: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. or
 to sell-out
 Phone: (361) 439-7289

CORSICANA**Navarro County****Navarro County Farmers Market Association**

Location: 6th Ave at Hwy. 75 Business Route
 Days of Operation: Tuesday, Saturday
 Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. until sell-out
 Phone: (903) 874-2670

DALLAS**Dallas County****Dallas Farmers Market**

Location: 1010 S. Pearl
 Days of Operation: Monday, Tuesday,
 Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday
 Hours of Operation: 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 Phone: (214) 939-2713

EL PASO**El Paso County****El Paso Growers Association**

Location 1: 9484 Dyer St.
 Days of Operation: Saturday, Sunday
 Hours of Operation: Saturday 11 a.m. to 4
 p.m.; Sunday 7 a.m. until sell-out
 Phone: (915) 820-2281

Location 2: 411 North Zaragosa Rd.
 Days of Operation: Monday, Wednesday
 Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Phone: (915) 820-2281

Location 3: 1120 McRae
 Days of Operation: Tuesday
 Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Phone: (915) 820-2281

Valley Growers Association

Location 1: 816 Florence
 Days of Operation: Tuesday
 Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Phone: (915) 764-2149

Location 2: 6375 Montana
 Days of Operation: Saturday
 Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 Phone: (915) 764-2149

Location 3: 411 North Zaragosa
 Days of Operation: Sunday
 Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Phone: (915) 764-2149

ELGIN**Bastrop County****River Valley Farmers Market**

Location: 414 North Main St.
 Days of Operation: Tuesday
 Hours of Operation: 1 to 6 p.m.
 Phone: (512) 303-6793
 Web site: www.rivervalleyfarmersmarket.org



FABENS

El Paso County

Valley Growers Association

Location: 305 North West Main St.
Days of Operation: Wednesday
Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Phone: (915) 764-2149

FORT WORTH

Tarrant County

Downtown Farmers Market (Northside)

Location 1: 2707 Jacksboro Hwy.
Days of Operation: Monday - Saturday
Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Phone: (254) 646-3341

Location 2: 4800 South Hulon St.
Days of Operation: Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Phone: (254) 646-3341

Location 3: 8101 Camp Bowie Blvd.
Days of Operation: Monday - Sunday
Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Phone: (254) 646-3341



North Central Texas Farmers Market Corporation

Location: 3821 Southwest Blvd.
Days of Operation: Wednesday, Friday, Saturday
Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to sell-out
Phone: (254) 643-2388

Ridgmar Farmers Market Inc.

Location 1: 900 Hwy. 183
Days of Operation: Monday - Sunday
Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Phone: (817) 246-7525
Web site: www.ridgmarfm.com

Location 2: 7601 Jacksboro Hwy. 199
Days of Operation: Monday - Sunday
Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Phone: (817) 246-7525
Web site: www.ridgmarfm.com

GEORGETOWN

Williamson County

Georgetown Farmers Market Association

Location: 400 Block South Austin Ave.
Days of Operation: Thursday
Hours of Operation: 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Phone: (512) 281-3699
E-mail: the_vegetable_cart@webtv.net
Web site: www.gtfma.com

GRAND PRAIRIE

Dallas County

North Central Texas Farmers Market Corporation

Location: 130 West Church St.
Days of Operation: Thursday, Saturday
Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. until sell-out
Phone: (254) 643-2388

GRAPEVINE

Tarrant County

North Central Texas Farmers Market Corporation

Location: 325 South Main St.
Days of Operation: Wednesday, Saturday
Hours of Operation: Wednesday 1 p.m. until sell-out; Saturday 8 a.m. until sell-out
Phone: (254) 643-2388

HEREFORD

Deaf Smith County

Deaf Smith Chamber of Commerce Farmers Market

Location: 200 East Park Ave.
Days of Operation: Wednesday
Hours of Operation: 4 p.m. until sell-out
Phone: (806) 364-2800
E-mail: tif@amaonline.com

HOUSTON

Harris County

Bayou City Farmers Market

Location: 3000 Richmond
Days of Operation: Wednesday, Saturday
Hours of Operation: Wednesday 4 to 7 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. to noon
Phone: (713) 880-5540
E-mail: jacqueie@urbanharvest.org
Web site: www.urbanharvest.org

Midtown Farmers Market

Location: 3701 Travis St.
Days of Operation: Saturday
Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to noon
Phone: (713) 524-6922
E-mail: tafia@texas.net
Web site: www.tafia.com

INGLESIDE

San Patricio County

Area Farmers Market Association

Location: 2600 Main St.
Days of Operation: Monday - Friday
Hours of Operation: 1 to 6 p.m.
Phone: (361) 776-2535
Fax: (361) 776-2535

JACKSONVILLE

Cherokee County

East Texas Farmers Market

Location: 1836 South Jackson
Days of Operation: Monday - Saturday
Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Phone: (903) 589-9292

JONESTOWN

Williamson County

Angel Valley Farm-Market

Location: Jonestown Plaza, 18649 FM 1431
Days of Operation: Saturday
Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Phone: (512) 236-0074
Fax: (512) 236-0098
E-mail: suzanne@sustainablefoodcenter.org
Web site: www.austinfarmersmarket.org

KILLEEN

Bell County

Killeen Area Growers Association

Location: 21 Park St. and Avenue G
Days of Operation: Tuesday, Friday
Hours of Operation: 3 to 6 p.m.
Phone: (254) 699-2786

LIVINGSTON

Polk County

Livingston Farmers Market

Location: 111 US 59 Loop North
Days of Operation: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday
Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. to noon
Phone: (936) 563-4961

LUBBOCK

Lubbock County

Apple Country Farmers Market

Location 1: 6009 45th St., next to Sam's Club
Days of Operation: Monday - Sunday
Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Phone: (806) 781-1752
Fax: (806) 792-0669
E-mail: cal.brints@gmail.com

Location 2: 1922 Avenue A
Days of Operation: Monday - Sunday
Hours of Operation: Monday - Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday noon to 5 p.m.
Phone: (806) 781-1752
Fax: (806) 792-0669
E-mail: cal.brints@gmail.com

LUFKIN

Angelina County

Lufkin Farmers Market Association

Location: 2107 South Medford Dr.
Days of Operation: Monday - Sunday
Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Phone: (936) 632-2605

LYTLE

Atascosa County

South Texas Farmers Market Association

Location: 19743 South IH 35
(Harris Western Center)
Days of Operation: Wednesday
Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Phone: (210) 559-0029
E-mail: n3farms@juno.com

MIDLAND

Midland County

Permian Basin Farmers Market Association Inc.

Location: 5021 Princeton St.
Days of Operation: Tuesday, Saturday
Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. to sell-out
Phone: (432) 694-3460

NEW BRAUNFELS

Comal County

San Marcos/New Braunfels Farmers Market Association

Location: 172 West College St.

Days of Operation: Friday

Hours of Operation: 3 to 6 p.m.

Phone: (830) 935-3159

E-mail: htfs@grtc.com

Web site:

www.sanmarcosfarmersmarket.com

PARIS

Lamar County

Market Square Farmers Market

Location: 410 S.W. 1st Street

Days of Operation: Monday, Tuesday,

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Hours of Operation: 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Phone: (903) 784-9293

PLAINVIEW

Hale County

Plainview Area Farmers Market

Location: Stonegate Center,
1000 North IH 27

Days of Operation: Wednesday, Saturday

Hours of Operation: 7:45 a.m. until sell-out

Phone: (806) 296-2032

PLEASANTON

Atascosa County

South Texas Farmers Market Association

Location 1: Hwy. 281/431 Houston St.

Days of Operation: Friday

Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Phone: (210) 559-0029

ROCKPORT-FULTON

Aransas County

Rockport - Fulton Farmers Market

Location: 301 Deforest Loop

Days of Operation: First and third Saturday
of each month

Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to noon

Phone: (361) 463-1231

E-mail: mcurren527@yahoo.com

ROUND ROCK

Williamson County

Georgetown Farmers Market Association

Location: 200 East Bagdad

Days of Operation: Saturday

Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to noon

Phone: (512) 821-3699

E-mail: the_vegetable_cart@webtv.net

Web site: www.gtfma.com

ROUND TOP

Fayette County

Round Top Farmers Market Association

Location: 102 Main St.

Days of Operation: Saturday

Hours of Operation: 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Phone: 979-966-3843

E-mail:

roundtopfarmersmkt@pwfarmtexas.com

SAN ANGELO

Tom Green County

Concho Valley Farmers Market

Location: 609 South Oakes

Days of Operation: Tuesday, Thursday,
Saturday

Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. until sell-out

Phone: (325) 651-4560

E-mail: jacksoma121@netzero.com

SAN ANTONIO

Bexar County

San Antonio Farmers Market Association

Location 1: St. Leonard's Catholic Church,
8510 South Zarzamora St.

Days of Operation: Monday

Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Phone: (210) 649-1853

E-mail: marrsgardens@aol.com

Location 2: Olmos Basin, Jackson Keller
and McCullough

Days of Operation: Tuesday, Saturday

Hours of Operation: 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Phone: (210) 649-1853

E-mail: marrsgardens@aol.com

Location 3: St. Jude's Catholic Church, 130
South San Augustine

Days of Operation: Wednesday

Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Phone: (210) 649-1853

E-mail: marrsgardens@aol.com

Location 4: Leon Valley Community Center,
6427 Evers Rd.

Days of Operation: Wednesday

Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to noon

Phone: (210) 649-1853

E-mail: marrsgardens@aol.com

Location 5: Tejada Park, 500 Division Ave.

Days of Operation: Thursday

Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Phone: (210) 649-1853

E-mail: marrsgardens@aol.com

Location 6: St. Matthew's Catholic Church,
11121 Wurzbach Rd.

Days of Operation: Friday

Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Phone: (210) 649-1853

E-mail: marrsgardens@aol.com

Location 7: 3920 North Loop 1604 East
and Bulverde Rd.

Days of Operation: Saturday, Sunday

Hours of Operation: Saturday 1 to 5 p.m.;

Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Phone: (210) 649-1853

E-mail: marrsgardens@aol.com

South Texas Farmers Market Association

Location 1: Tullez Tamales, 1737 South
General McMullen

Days of Operation: Monday, Friday

Hours of Operation: Monday 9 a.m. to 4
p.m.; Friday 2 to 6 p.m.

Phone: (210) 559-0029

Location 2: Mid Town Market,
1802 Blanco Rd.

Days of Operation: Friday, Saturday

Hours of Operation: Friday 2 to 6 p.m.;

Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Phone: (210) 559-0029

E-mail: n3farms@juno.com

Location 3: J C Food Market, 3606
Fredericksburg Rd.

Days of Operation: Tuesday

Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Phone: (210) 559-0029

E-mail: n3farms@juno.com

Location 4: Ole's Richters, 4642 Rigsby

Days of Operation: Wednesday, Saturday

Hours of Operation: Wednesday 8 a.m. to 1
p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Phone: (210) 559-0029

E-mail: n3farms@juno.com

Location 5: Toudouze Market, 800 Buena Vista

Days of Operation: Friday

Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Phone: (210) 559-0029

E-mail: n3farms@juno.com



Location 6: Goodwill Store, 4722 Eisenhaur
Rd. at IH 35

Days of Operation: Thursday

Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Phone: (210) 559-0029

E-mail: n3farms@juno.com

Location 7: Adelita Tamales, 1130 Fresno Dr.

Days of Operation: Monday, Thursday

Hours of Operation: Monday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.;

Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Phone: (210) 559-0029

E-mail: n3farms@juno.com

Location 8: Grady's Bar-B-Que,
7400 Bandera Rd.

Days of Operation: Tuesday, Thursday

Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Phone: (210) 559-0029

Location 9: Texas Thrift Store,
6708 South Flores

Days of Operation: Tuesday, Saturday

Hours of Operation: Tuesday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.;

Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Phone: (210) 559-0029

Location 10: St. Bonaventure Catholic Church,
1918 Palo Alto Rd.

Days of Operation: Friday

Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Phone: (210) 559-0029

Location 11: Munoz Market, 1625 South Zarzamora St.
Days of Operation: Wednesday, Saturday
Hours of Operation: Wednesday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tri-County Farmers Market Association

Location 1: 1015 Rittiman Road
(JC Food Market)
Days of Operation: Monday
Hours of Operation: 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Phone: (830) 665-3519

Location 2: 6700 South Flores (Arbolitos)
Days of Operation: Tuesday
Hours of Operation: 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Phone: (830) 665-3519

Location 3: 123 Ascot Street
Days of Operation: Wednesday
Hours of Operation: 7:30 to 1:00 p.m.
Phone: (830) 665-3519

Location 4: 1918 Palo Alto
Days of Operation: Thursday
Hours of Operation: 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Phone: (830) 665-3519

Location 5: 8500 Jones Maltsburger
Days of Operation: Saturday
Hours of Operation: 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Phone: (830) 665-3519

SAN MARCOS

Hays County San Marcos/New Braunfels Farmers Market Association

Location: 104 South C. M. Allen Pkwy. and
104 Edward Gary
Days of Operation: Tuesday
Hours of Operation: 3 to 6 p.m.
Phone: (830) 935-3159
E-mail: htfs@grtc.com
Web site:
www.sanmarcosfarmersmarket.com

SEGUIN

Guadalupe County Guadalupe Valley Gardeners Market

Location 1: 510 East Court St.
Days of Operation: Wednesday
Hours of Operation: 4 to 6 p.m.
Phone: (830) 305-3193
Guadalupe Valley Gardeners Market

Location 2: 100 East Donegan St.
Days of Operation: Saturday
Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. until noon
Phone: (830) 305-3193

Seguin Farmers Market Association

Location: 510 East Court St.
Days of Operation: Wednesday, Saturday
Hours of Operation: Wednesday 3 to 6 p.m.;
Saturday 8:30 a.m. to noon
Phone: (830) 305-3193

SMITHVILLE

Bastrop County River Valley Farmers Market

Location: Loop 230 and Mills St.
Days of Operation: Thursday
Hours of Operation: 1 to 6 p.m.
Phone: (512) 303-6793
Web site: www.rivervalleyfarmersmarket.org

SUN CITY

Williamson County Georgetown Farmers Market Association

Location: Activity Center on Texas Dr.
Days of Operation: Tuesday
Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. to noon
Phone: (512) 821-3699
E-mail: the_vegetable_cart@webtv.net
Web site: www.gtfma.com



TAYLOR

Williamson County Taylor Area Farmers Market Association

Location: 5th and Main St.
Days of Operation: Monday, Wednesday
Hours of Operation: 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Phone: (512) 365-9230

TEMPLE

Bell County Bell County Farmers Market Association

Location: 212 South Main
Days of Operation: Tuesday, Thursday,
Saturday
Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. to sell-out
Phone: (254) 778-2401

THE WOODLANDS

Montgomery County Market Street Farmers Market

Location: 9595 Six Pines Dr.
Days of Operation: Saturday
Hours of Operation: 8 to 11 a.m.
Phone: (281) 419-4770
E-mail: jtaylor@trademarkproperty.com
Web site: www.marketstreet-thewoodlands.com

TYLER

Smith County Tyler Farmers Market Association

Location: 2112 West Front St. on East Texas
Fair Grounds
Days of Operation: Tuesday, Thursday,
Saturday
Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. or
until sell-out
Phone: (903) 894-6507

WACO

McLennan County Heart of Texas Farmers Market

Location: 4601 Bosque
Days of Operation: Tuesday, Thursday,
Saturday
Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Phone: (254) 562-5663

WAXAHACHIE

Ellis County Waxahachie Downtown Farmers Market

Location: 100 Block of Franklin; south side of
Courthouse Square
Days of Operation: Saturday
Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Phone: (972) 938-2101
E-mail: akornegay@waxahachie.com
Web site: www.waxahachie.com

WEATHERFORD

Parker County Parker County Farmers Market

Location: 217 Fort Worth St.
Days of Operation: Monday - Sunday
Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Phone: (817) 599-4080

WICHITA FALLS

Wichita County Charlie-Thornberry Farmers Market Association

Location: 8th and Ohio St.
Days of Operation: Tuesday, Thursday,
Saturday
Hours of Operation: 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Phone: (940) 544-2223

Red River Farmers Market

Location: 101 East Hatton Rd.
Days of Operation: Tuesday, Thursday,
Saturday
Hours of Operation: 7:30 a.m. until sell-out
Phone: (940) 766-2092

A close-up photograph of a woven basket filled with numerous bell peppers. The peppers are in various stages of ripeness, showing shades of red, orange, and yellow. Some peppers have green stems still attached. The lighting is bright, highlighting the glossy texture of the pepper skins. The basket's rim is visible at the bottom of the frame.

Pick-Your-Own

Best Selection, Your Choice – First Hand!

Pick-Your-Own Locations, Roadside Stands and On-the-Farm Sales

Want the freshest produce available? Try your hand at harvesting everything from fresh berries, herbs and apples to citrus and cut flowers. Every year, Texas farmers across the state invite everyone to hand pick the best of their crop. Visiting a pick-your-own farm can be a great recipe for a fun family memory or school trip. Nothing beats the smile on children's faces as they sink their teeth into a just-picked sweet juicy peach or a vine-ripened tomato.



Agriculture Facts:

Texas leads the nation in the number of farms, ranches and land in agricultural production.

Texas farmers grow more than 60 different commercial fruit and vegetable crops.

One out of every seven Texans owes his or her job to the agricultural industry.

In this guide you'll find pick-your-own operations and roadside stands in this guide listed by county, along with a county map on the inside of the back page. Remember to verify listings before traveling – then take your pick of the best Texas has to offer.

Key to the listings:

PYO = pick-your-own

RS = roadside stand

FP = fresh-picked on-the-farm sales.



Pick-Your-Own

ANGELINA COUNTY

Ridgeview Farms (pyo)

5471 Hwy. 7, Pollok

Contact: Sherry Kroboth

Phone: (936) 853-3286

Web site: www.ridgeviewpeaches.com

Days of operation: Wednesday, Thursday,

Friday, Saturday

Hours of operation: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Directions: See Web site for directions.

Products	Availability
Blueberries	May-July
Peaches	June-July

AUSTIN COUNTY

Thomas Family Berries (pyo) (fp)

12753 Hahn Rd., Sealy

Contact: Keith Thomas

Phone: (979) 865-9796

E-mail: rktjlt@sbcglobal.net

Web site:

www.myspace.com/thomasfamilyberries

Directions: Call for directions, hours of operation and days of operation.

Products	Availability
Blackberries	Call for availability

BANDERA COUNTY

Love Creek Orchards (pyo)

14024 State Hwy. 16 North, Medina

Contact: Baxter Adams

Phone: (830) 589-2588

Days of operation: Monday through

Saturday

Hours of operation: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Directions: From San Antonio, take Hwy.

16 north through Medina. Travel 12 miles

past Bandera. Orchard is on the right side.

Call for directions from Austin.

Products	Availability
Apples	July-August
Blackberries	May-June
Peaches	January-July
Figs	July-August
Persimmons	September-October

BASTROP COUNTY

Bastrop Gardens (pyo)

316 Old Hwy. 71 (CR 335), Cedar Creek

Phone: (512) 303-5672

Days of operation: Monday - Saturday

Hours of operation: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Directions: Call first for directions and for best results.

Products	Availability
Tomatoes	May-June
Peppers	May-October
Herbs	Year-round
Leafy Greens	Fall

Chickamaw Farm (pyo)

McDade

Contact: Bill McCranie

Phone: (512) 567-3456

E-mail: mccranie@asapchoice.com

Days of operation: Monday - Sunday,

Hours of operation: 7:30 a.m. until dark

Directions: Call for directions. Located between Elgin and Bastrop.

Products	Availability
Blueberries	May
Blackberries	May-September
Strawberries	March-June

Ragan Farm Blueberries (pyo)

689 South Old Potato Rd, Paige

Contact: Suzanne Ragan

Phone: (512) 253-6726

E-mail: raganfarm@peoplepc.com

Days of operation: Wednesday, Saturday

Hours of operation: 7 a.m. until dark

Directions: From Bastrop, 1.7 miles off

Hwy. 21 south on Old Potato Rd.

Products	Availability
Blueberries	June

Wolf Farm (pyo)

437 Wolf Rd., McDade

Contact: Evelyn Wolf

Phone: (512) 273-2388

Days of operation: Call for days of operation

Hours of operation: Call for hours of operation

Directions: From Austin take Hwy. 290 East through Elgin to McDade; turn left on Loop 223 by little white church; continue

straight, crossing over railroad tracks. Then travel approximately 2.5 miles from tracks to first paved road (Wolf Rd) on the right. Farm is the second house on the left.

Products	Availability
Blackberries	May-June
Figs	July
Persimmons	October-November

BELL COUNTY

Killeen Area Growers Association (rs)

21 Park St. and Avenue G, Killeen

Contact: Ferrell Davis

Phone: (254) 291-8796

Days of operation: Tuesday, Friday

Hours of operation: 3 to 6 p.m.

Products	Availability
Sweet and Hot Peppers	July

BLANCO COUNTY

Hill Country Lavendar (pyo)

4524 Hwy. 281, Blanco

Contact: Tasha Brieger

Phone: (830) 833-2294

E-mail: info@hillcountrylavender.com

Web site: www.hillcountrylavender.com

Days of operation: Friday, Saturday, Sunday

Hours of operation: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Directions: 3.5 miles north of Blanco

on Hwy. 281 on the right side of road.

Visit the Web site for exact dates and directions.

Products	Availability
Lavender	May-June

BRAZOS

Gendron Homegrown (pyo)

6150 Zweifel Rd., Bryan

Contact: Patricia Gendron

Phone: (979) 775-9500 or (979) 777-9344

E-mail: gendron@suddenlinkmail.com

Days of operation: Sunday, Tuesday,

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Hours of operation: Thursday-Friday 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Directions: From College Station take Hwy. 6 north to Bryan, take the Tabor Rd. exit (just one exit north to the intersection of Hwy. 6 and Hwy. 21). Go northeast

for 9.5 miles and make a left on Zweifel Rd. The farm will be on the right, about half a mile.

Products

Tomatoes, Okra, Cucumbers, Peas, Squash, Eggplant, Peppers, Zucchini, Other Seasonal Vegetables
Call for availability

BURLESON COUNTY

Kingsbury's Blackberries (pyo)

760 CR 316, Caldwell

Contact: Mandy Kingsbury

Phone: (979) 567-9138

E-mail: berrygrowers@peoplepc.com

Days of operation: Call for days of operation

Hours of operation: Call for hours of operation

Directions: In Caldwell, at the Hwy. 21 and Hwy. 36 intersection, take Hwy. 36 north for two miles. Turn left onto CR 316 and turn at the fifth mailbox on the right with the green sign that says 760.

Products	Availability
Blackberries	May-June

BURNET COUNTY

Sweetberry Farm (pyo)

1801 FM 1980, Marble Falls

Contact: Dan Copeland

Phone: (830) 798-1462

Web site: www.sweetberryfarm.com

Days of operation: Sunday, Monday,

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Hours of operation: Monday-Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. (closed on Wednesday);

Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

Directions: From Marble Falls, take Hwy.

1431 west to FM 1980 (Tobeyville Rd.),

then 1.2 miles to farm.

Products	Availability
Strawberries	March-May
Blackberries	May-June
Potatoes	May
Pumpkins	October

CALDWELL COUNTY

Luling Foundation (fp)

523 S. Mulberry, Luling
Contact: Bonnie Dreadla
Phone: (830) 875-2438
E-mail: lulingfoundation@sbcglobal.net
Web site: www.lulingfoundation.org
Days of operation: Monday through Friday
Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Directions: From the intersection of Hwy. 90 and Hwy. 183 in Luling, go west seven blocks to Mulberry Street.

Products	Availability
Peaches, Blackberries	June-July
Sweet Corn, Cucumber	June

McKemie Homegrown (fp)

2336 Sand Hollow, Dale
Contact: Willie McKemie
Phone: (512) 764-2122
E-mail: McKemie@spamcop.net
Web site: www.austinfarm.org/homegrown
Days of operation: Call for days of operation
Hours of operation: 9 a.m. to noon
Directions: Thirty miles south of Austin and one mile north of Dale. From Austin go south on Hwy. 183, turn east on Hwy. 21, go one mile, turn right on FM 1854 and then 14 miles to Dale. In Dale, take first left, go one block, then take a right on CR 165 for one mile.

Products	Availability
Blackberries	May-June

Natal's Produce (rs)

637 E. Pierce, Luling
Contact: Joseph Natal
Phone: (830) 875-9028
Days of operation: Monday - Sunday
Hours of operation: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Directions: Call for directions

Products	Availability
Peaches	April-November
Watermelon,	
Cantaloupes	February-December
Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes,	
Onions, Pecans, Peanuts,	
Tomatoes,	Year-round
Plums	May-December

CALLAHAN COUNTY

Childress Farm (pyo)

10831 County Rd. 452, Cross Plains
Contact: Scott Childress
Phone: (254) 725-6866
E-mail: scott@childressfarm.com
Web site: www.childressfarm.com
Days of operation: Monday- Sunday
Hours of operation: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Directions: Seven miles north of Cross Plains to Cottonwood on FM 880; go one mile west, then one mile south.

Products	Availability
Peaches	July
Blackberries	Mid May-Mid June
Black Eyed Peas	July
Sweet Corn	June-July

CAMP COUNTY

East Texas Peach & Berry Camp (pyo) (rs)

271 South West, Pittsburgh
Contact: Albert Smith
Phone: (903) 856-3779
E-mail: alsmith30@aol.com
Days of operation: Monday - Sunday
Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Directions: Approximately 3.8 miles south of Pittsburgh on Hwy. 271.

Products	Availability
Peaches	Memorial Day-August
Blackberries	Memorial Day-July
Raspberries	June
Jams	Year-round
Jellies	Year-round
Vegetables	Year-round
Salsa	Year-round

CHAMBERS COUNTY

Lazy D. Berry Farm (pyo)

42703 IH 10, Winnie
Contact: Barbara De Villiar
Phone: (409) 296-2882
Days of operation: Call for days of operation
Hours of operation: Sunup to Sunset
Directions: IH 10, three miles west of Winnie between FM 1410 and FM 1406 exits.

Products	Availability
Blueberries	June

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Eastex Farms (pyo)

1975 CR 1605, Rusk
Phone: (800) 755-2434 or (903) 683-5726
E-mail: robbiegourmet@yahoo.com
Web site: www.gourmetgardens.com
Days of operation: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday
Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Directions: Eight miles south of Jacksonville; four miles north of Rusk off of Hwy. 69.

Products	Availability
Blueberries	June
Giftshop	Year-round

CLAY COUNTY

Tucker's Farm (pyo) (rs)

9594 FM 171, Wichita Falls
Contact: Mike Tucker
Phone: (940) 544-2455 or (940) 544-2235
Days of operation: Monday - Sunday
Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Directions: Located about 20 miles north-east of Wichita Falls on FM 171 near Charlie.

Products	Availability
Peaches	June-August
Pecans	November-January
Seasonal Vegetables	Summer

Young's Orchard (pyo)

9978 West FM 171, Wichita Falls
Contact: Steve and Jan Young
Phone: (940) 544-2211
E-mail: orchard@wf.net
Web site: www.youngsorchard.com
Days of operation: Monday - Saturday
Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Directions: Fifteen miles northeast of Wichita Falls on FM 171, one mile West of FM 810 near Charlie.

Products
Cantaloupes, Black-Eyed Peas, Blackberries, Peaches, Strawberries, Watermelon, Tomatoes, Peppers, Okra, Onions, Plums, Squash, New Potatoes, Pecans
Check Web site for availability



COOKE COUNTY

Lavender Ridge Farms, Inc. (pyo) (fp)

2391 CR 178, Gainesville
Contact: Jerry Ware, Jane Dane, Mark Whitfield
Phone: (940) 665-6938
E-mail: info@lavenderridgefarms.com
Web site: www.lavenderridgefarms.com
Days of operation: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Hours of operation: Check Web site for hours of operation
Directions: Check Web site for directions

Products	Availability
Vegetables	Late March-November
Cut Flowers	Mid March-November
Lavender	Memorial Day-July
Perennials, Herbs,	
Native Plants'	March-December

Red River Peach Orchard (pyo)

300 CR 134, Gainesville
Contact: Rose and Norman Miller
Phone: (940) 612-2600
Web site: www.redriverpeachorchard.com
Directions: From I-35, take SH 82 east about 4.0 miles to FM 371. There's a yellow blinking caution light at 371. Take 371 north about 3.7 miles to CR 134. The orchard is about 0.2 mile left on CR 134.

Products	Availability
Peaches	June

DALLAS COUNTY

Sunnyvale Pecan Orchard (pyo)

(The Sage Pecan Farm)
137 Rebecca Road, Sunnyvale TX 75182
Contact: Mike Sage
Phone: (972) 226-7243 or (972) 226-1251
E-mail: rustysage@gmail.com
Web site: www.e-pecan.org
Days of operation: By appointment only
Hours of operation: Check Web site for hours of operation
Directions: Sage Pecan Farm/Sunnyvale Pecan Orchard is located on 137 Rebecca Road, off of East Hwy. 80 in Sunnyvale.

Products	Availability
Pecans	November-December

Walls Family Farm (pyo)

1220 Elmwood, Richardson
Contact: Marilyn and Dale Walls
Phone: (972) 235-3991
Web site: www.wallsfamilyfarm.com
Days of operation: Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Hours of operation: Friday-Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.
Directions: See Web site for directions.

Products	Availability
Pecans, Blackberries	Seasonally

DEWITT COUNTY

Adamek Orchards (pyo)

490 FM 966, Yoakum
Contact: Weyman Adamek
Phone: (361) 293-7860 or (361) 293-7860
Web site: www.adamekorchards.com
Days of operation: Open daily May-June
Hours of operation: 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Directions: West of Yoakum on Hwy. 111, 3.5 miles to Petersville, go north on FM 966 a half mile to the red-roofed house on the left.

Products	Availability
Peaches	May-June

FANNIN COUNTY

Jenkins Farm (pyo)

269 CR 1600, Ravenna
Contact: Pat and Claud Jenkins
Phone: (903) 583-2220
E-mail: cjenkinsfarm@aol.com
Days of operation: Open daily June and July
Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Directions: Call for directions.

Products	Availability
Blackberries	June
Peaches, Plums	June-July

FLOYD COUNTY

Assiter Punkin Ranch (pyo)

P.O. Box 70, Floydada
Contact: Tim Assiter
Phone: (806) 983-3322
E-mail: tim@punkinranch.com
Web site: www.punkinranch.com
Days of operation: Open Tuesday after Labor Day until Halloween
Hours of operation: Call for hours of operation.
Directions: 11 miles south of Floydada on Hwy. 62-207.

Products	Availability
Pumpkins	September-October

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Cypress Springs Tree and Berry Farm (pyo)

506 CR 4345 SE, Scroggins
Contact: Janet Johnson
Phone: (903) 860-2588
E-mail: richnjan@peoplescom.net
Days of operation: By appointment only
Hours of operation: Call for hours of operation
Directions: Call for directions.

Products	Availability
Blueberries	June-July
Christmas Trees	Thanksgiving-Christmas Eve

GILLESPIE COUNTY

Behrends Orchard (fp) (rs)

Orchard Rd. off Hwy 290, Fredericksburg
Contact: Randy Pehl
Phone: (836) 997-4420
Web site: www.texaspeaches.com/behrends
Days of operation: Open daily
Hours of operation: Sunday-Thursday 8 a.m.- 6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 8 a.m.- 7 p.m.
Directions: Located four miles east of Fredericksburg, on south side of Hwy. 290.

Products	Availability
Peaches	May-September
Tomatoes, Okra, Blackberries, Melons	June-July

Burg's Corner (rs)

15194 Hwy. 290 East, Stonewall
Phone: (800) 694-2772 or (830) 644-2604
E-mail: peaches@burgscorner.com
Web site: www.burgscorner.com
Days of operation: Daily May-Sept; Weekends October-December
Hours of operation: Check Web site.
Directions: 64 miles west of Austin on Hwy. 290.

Products	Availability
Peaches, Squash, Corn, Tomatoes, Melons, Seasonal Fruits and Vegetables	May-September

Crenwelge Peaches (rs)

617 W. Main St., Fredericksburg TX 78624
Contact: Roger Crenwelge
Phone: (830) 997-4977 or Peachstand (830) 997-7878
E-mail: ircren@ktc.com
Web site: www.texaspeaches.com/crenwelge
Days of operation: Daily June-August
Hours of operation: Check Web site
Directions: Call for directions.

Products	Availability
Peaches, Seasonal Vegetables	May-August

Das Peach Haus (rs)

1406 South Hwy. 87, Fredericksburg
Contact: Brenda Kirby
Phone: (866) 997-8969
E-mail: dph@jelly.com
Web site: http://daspeachhaus.com
Days of operation: Daily
Hours of operation: 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Directions: Call for directions.

Products
Peaches, Watermelons, Blackberries, Plums, Tomatoes, Preserves, Salsa, Jams, Jelly
Check Web site for availability

Ernest Market (rs)

3722 Hwy. 16, Fredericksburg
Phone: (830) 997-2035
Directions: Call for directions, hours and days of operation.

Products	Availability
Peaches, Plums, Tomatoes, Peppers, Melons, Squash, Potatoes, Onions	June-August

Psencik Peach Farm (pyo) (fp)

255 Pfeiffer Rd., Fredericksburg
Contact: Sue and Bill Psencik
Phone: (830) 644-2410 or (830) 456-3539
Web site: www.texaspeaches.com/psencik
Days of operation: Monday - Sunday
Hours of operation: Monday-Saturday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday noon to 6 p.m.
Directions: Call for directions.

Products	Availability
Peaches	May-July
Blackberries	April-June



Wimberly Farmers Market Association

(pyo) (fp)
3961 N. Grape Creek Rd., Fredericksburg
Contact: Marion F. Ottmers
Phone: (830) 685-3313
Days of operation: Thursday
Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to noon
Directions: Call for directions.

Products	Availability
Peaches, Onions	May-August
Tomatoes, Squash,	
Cucumber, Green Beans	May-November
Leafy Vegetables, Cabbage,	
Cauliflower, Broccoli	November-May

Windy Hill Farms

(rs)
1674 Luckenbach Rd., Cain City
Contact: Albert Brooker
Phone: (830) 997-0257
Directions: Hwy. 290 from Fredericksburg, turn right on first road past Pedernales River Bridge (Cain City-Luckenbach Rd.). Go south three miles to the third house on the right.

Products	Availability
Peaches	May

GRAYSON COUNTY

Bailey's Berry Patch (pyo)
905 Crawford Rd., Sadler
Contact: Ann Bailey The Berry Lady
Phone: (903) 564-6228
E-mail: txberry@msn.com
Web site: www.txberry.com

Days of operation: Check Web site for days and hours of operation
Directions: Located halfway between Gainesville and Sherman, directions on Web site

Products

Blackberries, Blueberries, Muscadine
Grapes, Mayhaws, Pluots, Plums and Persimmons
Call for availability.

GREGG COUNTY

Danville Farms (fp)
2366 Danville Rd., Kilgore
Contact: James Robinson
Phone: (903) 520-8929 or (903) 649-3971
E-mail: jrobinson@danvillefarms.com
Web site: www.danvillefarms.com
Days of operation: Daily mid June - mid August
Hours of operation: 7 to 11 a.m.
Directions: At intersection of Hwy. 259 and Hwy. 31 go east on FM 349 approximately one mile, take right on Pitner, turn right after two blocks on Danville Rd.

Products	Availability
Peaches	June-August
Christmas Trees	Day after Thanksgiving- Mid December

GRIMES COUNTY

King's Orchard (pyo)
11282 CR. 302, Plantersville
Contact: Karen Crislip
Phone: (936) 894-2766
E-mail: questions@kingsorchard.com
Web site: www.kingsorchard.com
Days of operation: Tuesday-Sunday
Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Directions: Located halfway between Plantersville and Magnolia on FM 1774. Turn west on FM 302 at sign, go three-quarters mile.

Products	Availability
Strawberries	February-May
Blueberries	June-July
Blackberries	May-July
Figs	July-September
Seasonal Vegetables,	
Cut Flowers	Spring and Summer

HARRIS COUNTY

Blackberries of Houston

Location: 19531 Cypress Church Road
Phone: (281) 373-5357
Web site: www.blackberriesofhouston.com
Days of Operation: Monday-Sunday
Hours of Operation: 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Products: Blackberries

Chmielewski Blueberry Farm

(pyo)
23810 Bauer-Hockley Rd., Hockley
Contact: Dawn Chmielewski
Phone: (281) 304-0554
E-mail: dawndc@pdq.net
Web site: www.chmielewski-blueberry.com
Days of operation: Saturday, Sunday
Hours of operation: 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Directions: Take Hwy. 290 Past Hwy 6 for 13 miles to Becker Rd. Exit Becker Rd. and turn right at stop sign. Go 1.8 miles north on Becker to Bauer Hockley Rd.

Products	Availability
Blueberries	May-July

Matt Family Orchard and Nursery

(pyo)
21110 Bauer-Hockley Rd., Tomball
Contact: Rick Matt
Phone: (281) 351-7676 or (281) 467-9758
E-mail: mattfamilyorchard@yahoo.com
Web site: www.mattfamilyorchard.com
Days of operation: Monday-Saturday, May-November
Hours of operation: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Directions: Go northwest on Hwy 290 past FM 1960 to Mueschke Rd. Turn north on Mueschke Rd. and take a left on to Bauer-Hockley Rd. At Matt Family Orchard sign, turn west and proceed one mile through the green gate.

Products	Availability
Asian Pears,	
Asian Dates (Jujube)	July-August
Persimmons	September-November
Blackberries	May-June
Citrus	October-December
Figs	July-November
Fruit Trees	Year-round

HAYS COUNTY

Pure Luck Dairy Inc. (pyo) (fp)
101 Twin Oaks Trail, Dripping Springs
Phone: (512) 858-7034
E-mail: pureluck@mindspring.com
Web site: www.purelucktexas.com
Days of operation: Check Web site
Hours of operation: Check Web site
Directions: Take Hwy. 290 West from Austin approximately 20 miles to Dripping Springs. Continue on 290 West for three miles and turn right on McGregor Lane (also known as Hays Country Road 187). Go two miles on CR 187 turning left onto Martin Rd. (CR 188) for 1/2 mile. Pure Luck Farm in on the left and the dairy is on the right.

Products

Seasonal Vegetables, Cut Flowers, Fresh Cut Herbs, Goat Cheese
Check Web site for availability

HENDERSON COUNTY

Blueberry Basket (pyo) (fp)
12462 FM 2588, LaRue
Phone: (903) 677-3448
Days of operation: Sunday-Saturday
Hours of operation: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Directions: Take Hwy. 175 to LaRue, turn right on paved FM 2588 and go three miles. The farm is located on the right side of the road.

Products	Availability
Blueberries	June-July
Blackberries	May-June

HIDALGO COUNTY

Bachman Farms (fp) (rs)
South Tower Rd., Alamo
Phone: (956) 787-8278
Days of operation: Sunday-Saturday
Hours of operation: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Directions: South Tower Rd. in Alamo; go one mile south of Expressway 83.

Products	Availability
Sweet Corn	October-December
Green Beans, Zucchini	November-May
Grapefruit, Oranges	November-April
Tangerines	November-February
Butterkin Squash	October-May
Lemons	November-March

Engret Farms (fp)
 RR 3 Box 37 K, Alamo
 Phone: (956) 787-2889
 E-mail: engret@hiline.net
 Web site: www.engretfarms.com
 Days of operation: Monday-Saturday
 Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Directions: Nebraska Road, south of FM 495 in Alamo.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Grapefruit, Oranges, Tangerines, Lemons	September-May

Fike Farms (pyo)
 1601 North Sharp, Edinburg
 Phone: (956) 381-0334
 Days of operation: Monday-Friday
 Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call ahead on weekends
 Directions: Call for directions.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Grapefruit, Oranges Tangerines Lemons	October-April October-February Year-round

G and S Groves Farm (pyo) (fp) (rs)
 8017 North Ware Rd., McAllen TX
 Phone: (956) 686-8654
 Web site: www.gandsgroves.com
 Days of operation: Monday - Sunday
 Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 Directions: Call for directions.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Organic Oranges and Grapefruit	November-February

KAUFMAN COUNTY

Ham's Orchards (pyo) (fp)
 1939 CR 309, Terrell
 Phone: (972) 524-2028
 E-mail: dhampeach@aol.com
 Web site: www.hamorchard.com
 Days of operation: Monday - Sunday
 Hours of operation: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Directions: Call for directions.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Peaches, Plums, Apricots, Nectarines, Plumcots	May-August
Blackberries	May-July
Figs	July-August
Persimmons	October
Seasonal Vegetables	

LIMESTONE COUNTY

Point Enterprises Orchards (pyo) (rs)
 Phone: (800) 833-9321 or (254) 562-6913
 Days of operation: Sunday-Saturday
 Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 Directions: Four miles southeast of Mexia on FM 1365.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Persimmons	September-December
Pears	August-November
Peaches	May-August
Seasonal Vegetables	Year-round

LUBBOCK COUNTY

Apple Country Orchards (pyo) (fp) (rs)
 Rt. 2 Box 234, Idalou
 Contact: Susan Brints
 Phone: (806) 781-1753
 E-mail: sbrints@applecountryorchards.com
 Web site: www.applecountryorchards.com
 Days of operation: Monday - Sunday
 Hours of operation: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 Directions: Four miles east of Idalou on Hwy. 62-82, 10 miles east of Lubbock.

Products
 Apples, Peaches, Grapefruit, Oranges,
 Sweet Corn, Watermelons, Sweet Potatoes,
 Tomatoes, Peppers, Squash, Pumpkins,
 Other Seasonal Vegetables
Available Year-round

Gallaghers Apple Orchard (pyo) (fp)
 Lubbock
 Phone: (806) 763-0096
 Days of operation: Monday - Sunday
 Hours of operation: 8 a.m. until dark
 Directions: Call for directions.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Apples, Blackberries, Strawberries, Nectarines, Peaches	August-December

Tree Grace Farms (rs)
 2204 Alcove Ave., Lubbock
 Phone: (806) 792-2026
 E-mail: matt@treegracefarms.com
 Web site: www.treegracefarms.com
 Days of operation: Monday-Saturday
 Hours of operation: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
 Directions: West of Loop on 19th St.

Products available seasonally:
 Watermelon, Cantaloupe, Squash,
 Tomatoes, Hot and Sweet Peppers,
 Onions, Potatoes

MEDINA COUNTY

Devine Acres Orchard & Farm (pyo) (fp)
 944 FM 2200 W, Devine
 Phone: (830) 665-9730
 E-mail: debicapps@prodigy.net
 Web site: www.devineacres.com
 Days of operation: Check Web site
 Hours of operation: Check Web site
 Directions: Check Web site

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Peaches, Blackberries, Seasonal Vegetables	
Pumpkins	October
Christmas Trees	December

Check Web site for availability

MILAM COUNTY

Richardson Farms (pyo) (fp)
 2850 CR 412, Rockdale
 Contact: Jim Richardson
 Phone: (512) 446-2306 or
 E-mail: jrdson72@aol.com
 Web site: www.richardsonfarms.com
 Days of operation: Saturday-Sunday
 Hours of operation: Call for hours of operation
 Directions: Call or check Web site for directions.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Sweet Corn	June
Tomatoes	June-August
Cantaloupes	July-August
Pumpkins	September-October
Eggs, Pork, Beef	Check Web site for availability

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

M & R Hydroponic Farms (fp)
 1811 McCaleb Rd., Montgomery
 Phone: (832) 563-8543
 E-mail: michael@mrhydro.com
 Web site: www.mrhydro.com
 Days of operation: Monday, Wednesday, Friday
 Hours of operation: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Directions: 2 1/2 miles south of Hwy. 105 between Montgomery and Conroe.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Lettuce, Tomatoes	October-May
Blackberries	May

MORRIS COUNTY

Greer Farm (pyo) (fp)
 1444 CR 1125, Daingerfield
 Phone: (903) 645-3232 or (903) 452-9738
 E-mail: info@greerfarm.com
 Web site: www.greerfarm.com
 Days of operation: Monday - Sunday
 Hours of operation: 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.
 Directions: Call for directions.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Blueberries, Blackberries, Figs, Plums, Seasonal Vegetables	Call for availability



Ranes Orchard (fp)

8773 Hwy. 259 South, Omaha

Phone: (903) 884-2255

Days of operation: Monday - Sunday

Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or sell out

Directions: South of Omaha, 1.5 miles

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Peaches, Blackberries	Call for availability

PARKER COUNTY**B & G's Garden** (pyo) (fp)

Poolville

Contact: Ben Walker

Phone: (817) 220-0755 or (817) 763-0193

E-mail: bandggarden@hotmail.com

Web site: www.bandggarden.com

Days of operation: Sunday-Thursday

Hours of operation: Call for hours of operation

Directions: Call for directions.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Black-eyed Peas	June-July
Tomatoes, Peaches,	
Onions, Plums	June
Asparagus	March

Hutton Fruit Farm (fp) (rs)

Weatherford

Contact: Lafreita Hutton

Phone: (817) 594-1273

Days of operation: Monday - Sunday

Hours of operation: Call for hours of operation

Directions: Three miles west of

Weatherford on Hwy. 180, left on

Greenwood Cutoff Road, first house on the right.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Apricots, Tomatoes, Watermelons, Squash,	
Cantaloupes, Peaches, Plums, Blackberries,	
Apples, Peas, Pecans, New Potatoes,	
Nectarines	Call for availability.

POLK COUNTY**Baxter's Blueberry Farm** (pyo)

1835 Menard Chapel Road, Livingston

Contact: Elizabeth Baxter

Phone: (936) 685-7927

E-mail: ebaxter@livingston.net

Days of operation: Call for days of operation

Hours of operation: Call for hours of operation

Directions: Fifteen miles south of Livingston on Hwy. 146, turn left on FM 943, go 1.75 miles, turn left on Menard Cemetery Rd., proceed for two miles to the farm on the left.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Blueberries	Call for availability

Hamilton Berry Farm (pyo)

Livingston

Phone: 936-563-4910

Days of operation: Monday-Saturday

Hours of operation: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Directions: East from Livingston 12 miles on Hwy. 190, turn right on FM 1276, go 1.5 miles and turn right on Camp Ruby Rd., three miles to farm.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Blueberries	June

Jackson Fruit Farms (pyo)

422 Jackson Fruit Farm Rd., Livingston

Contact: H.W. Jackson

Phone: (936) 685-4658

E-mail: jfarms@samlink.com

Days of operation: Monday-Saturday

Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Directions: From Livingston, go 10 miles south on Hwy. 146 and turn left on Hwy. 943. Go eight miles, turn right on Holly Grove Road and travel five miles to the farm.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Blackberries	May-July
Mayhaw	April-May

ROBERTSON COUNTY**DeZavala Vineyard-Sand Pit Enterprises**

(pyo) (fp)

DeZavala Rd, Franklin

Contact: Lawrence DeZavala

Phone: (979) 828-4767

Days of operation: Monday - Sunday

Hours of operation: Sunup to Sunset

Directions: Eight and a half miles east of Franklin on Hwy. 79. Turn at DeZavala Vineyard sign, south on DeZavala Rd, cross railroad tracks.

<i>Products</i>
Blueberries, Blackberries, Raspberries,
Grapes, Peas, Seasonal Vegetables
Call for availability.

SAN JACINTO COUNTY**Oakview Orchard** (pyo)

Oakview Lane, Cleveland

Contact: Sue Burton

Phone: (936) 767-4011

E-mail: oakview@eastex.net

Days of operation: Friday, Saturday, Sunday

Hours of operation: 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Directions: From Houston on Hwy. 59 just north of Cleveland, turn left on FM 2025 West; go approximately six miles, turn left on FM 945; then go approximately 12 miles and turn left on Oakview Lane. From Coldsprng, take Hwy. 150 West to Evergreen, left on Hwy. 945 South toward Cleveland. Go one mile and take a right on Oakview Lane to orchard.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Blueberries	May-July

SAN SABA COUNTY**Oliver Pecan Company Inc.**

Phone: (325) 372-5771

E-mail: solives@centex.net

Web site: www.oliverpecan.com

Days of operation: Monday-Saturday

Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Directions: Retail store located 10 miles east of San Saba on Hwy. 190.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Pecans	September-November

SHELBY COUNTY**Blueberry Crossing** (pyo) (fp)

Timpson

Phone: (936) 254-3417

Days of operation: Monday-Saturday

Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Directions: One mile northeast of Timpson, Hwy. 59 North.

<i>Products</i>
Blueberries, Blackberries, Muscadine
Grapes, Figs
Call for availability

SMITH COUNTY**Deep Creek Farm** (pyo) (fp)

Tyler

Phone: (903) 877-3222

Days of operation: Monday - Sunday

Hours of operation: 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Directions: One-half mile south of IH 20 in Tyler on Hwy. 271.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Blackberries, Blueberries	June-July

Tyler Berry Farm (pyo) (fp)

Tyler

Phone: (888) 584-8054 or (903) 526-4440

Days of operation: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday

Hours of operation: (pyo) 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.; (fp) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Directions: Exit IH 20 at Tyler at Hwy. 69 South exit, go south 3.2 miles and turn right on CR 429. From Tyler, travel north on Hwy. 69, turn left on FM 2016 one mile north of Loop 323, go 1.2 miles, turn right on CR 429.

<i>Products</i>	<i>Availability</i>
Blueberries, Blackberries	June-August

TARRANT COUNTY

Gnismar Farms (pyo) (fp) (rs)

3010 Bowen Rd., Arlington

Phone: (817) 469-8704

E-mail: gnismar@att.net

Days of operation: Monday - Sunday

Hours of operation: 1 to 6 p.m. weekdays;

9 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends

Directions: 3010 S. Bowen Rd.

(Dalworthington Gardens) Arlington,

1 1/2 miles north of IH 20 on Bowen

Road. Gnismar Farms sign on left-hand

side of the road.

Products

Strawberries, Blackberries, Lettuce,

Garlic, Asparagus, Squash, Watermelon,

Cantaloupe, Onions, Cucumbers,

Broccoli, Potatoes, Cauliflower, Peppers

Call for availability

TRINITY COUNTY

Bluebonnet Berries (pyo) (fp)

10356 South Hwy. 94, Trinity

Contact: Jon and Barbara Thomas

Phone: (936) 594-6473

E-mail: bjtjw@msn.com

Days of operation: Monday - Saturday

Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Directions: 5 1/2 miles north east of Trinity

on Hwy. 94 at Bluebonnet Ridge.

Products

Availability

Blueberries Mid May-June

Blackberries June-July

VAN ZANDT COUNTY

Blueberry Hill Farms Inc. (pyo)

10268 FM 314, Edom

Contact: Chuck Arena

Phone: (903) 852-6175

Web site: www.bbhf.net

Days of operation: Monday - Sunday

Hours of operation: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Directions: Just south of Edom on FM 314.

From Dallas, take IH 20 East to Exit 540,

turn right on FM 314, go 12 miles.

Products Availability

Blueberries Check Web site for availability

WALLER COUNTY

E & B Orchards (pyo)

28268 Clarke Bottom, Hempstead

Phone: (979) 826-6303

E-mail: ed@eandborchards.com

Web site: www.eandborchards.com

Days of operation: Monday - Sunday

Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Directions: From Hempstead take Hwy.

290 west approximately 2.2 miles, turn

right on FM 1736 for 4.4 miles then turn

left on Clarke Bottom Rd. and go .6 miles.

The orchard is on the right.

Products

Availability

Peaches, White

Nectarines, Blackberries May-July

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Chappell Hill Lavender Farm (pyo)

2250 Dillard Rd., Brenham

Contact: Debbie McDowell

Phone: (979) 251-8114

E-mail: debbiemcdowell03@yahoo.com

Web site: www.chapellhilllavender.com

Days of operation: Check Web site

Hours of operation: Check Web site

Directions: Check Web site

Products

Availability

Lavender

Herbs Year-round

Ellison Greenhouses (pyo) (fp)

2107 E. Stone, Brenham

Contact: P. J. Ellison-Kalil

Phone: (979) 836-6011

Web site: www.ellisonsgreenhouses.com

Days of operation: Monday - Sunday

Hours of operation: Monday-Friday 8 a.m.

to 6 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Directions: Check Web site for directions

Products

Availability

Greenhouse Vine

Ripened Tomatoes Year-round

Herbs Year-round

Blooming Plants Year-round

Foliage Year-round

Poinsettias Mid-October-

Mid-December

WHARTON COUNTY

The Strawberry Patch (pyo)

Location: Wharton

Phone: (979) 531-0048

E-mail: boergerfarm@jwnet.net

Web site: www.texasberrypatch.com

Days of operation: Tuesday-Saturday

Hours of operation: 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday-Saturday; Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

Directions: Seven miles east of Wharton on

FM 1301.

Products

Availability

Strawberries, Peaches March-May

YOAKUM COUNTY

Shoestring Cattle Company (pyo) (rs)

Stateline and Hwy. 83, Denver City

Phone: (806) 732-8611

E-mail: shoest@crosswind.net

Days of operation: Sunday-Saturday

Hours of operation: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Directions: Call for directions

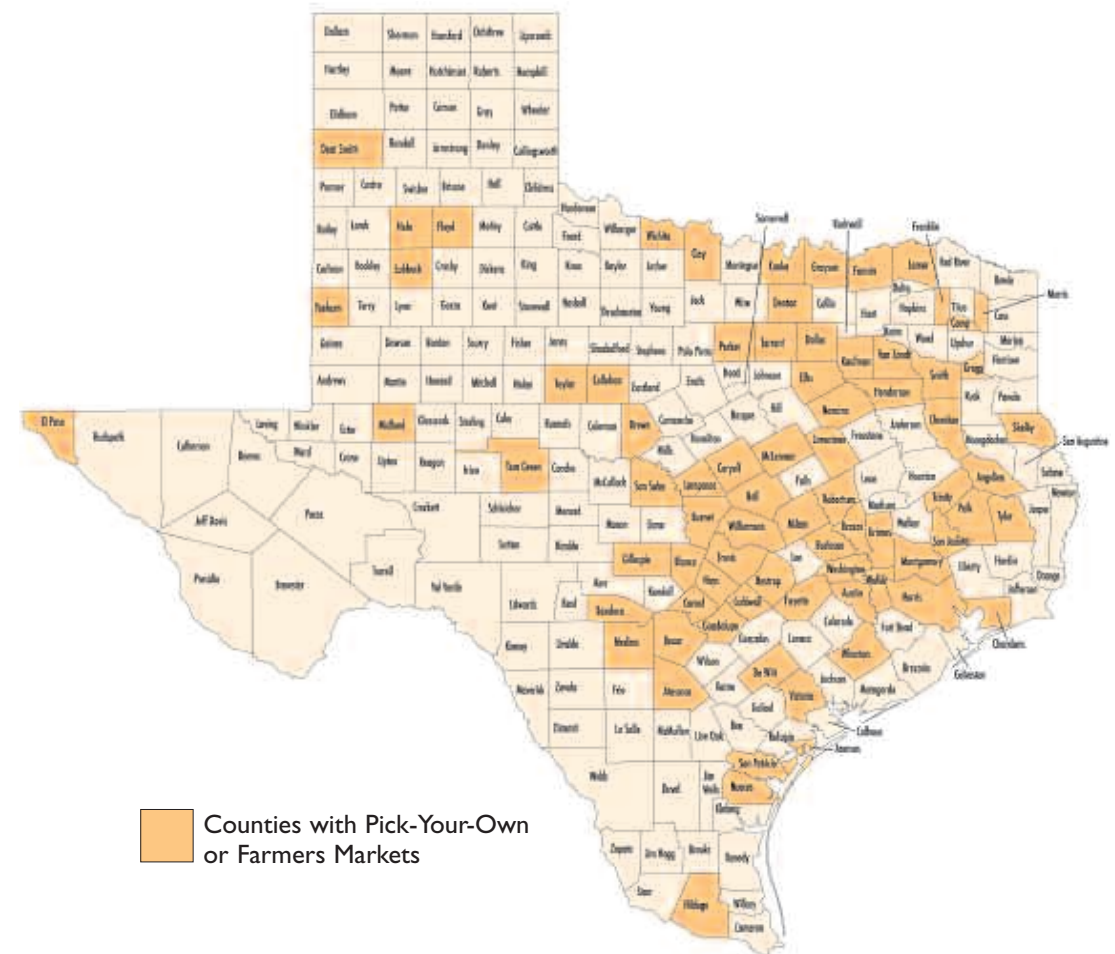
Products

Availability

Peppers, Peas, Okra,

Tomatoes July

Texas Counties



Recipes From The Farm

A recipe is only as good as the quality of the ingredients that go into it. That means choosing the best and freshest products available. Fortunately, Texas grows an incredible array of foods, all ripe for the picking by the discerning chef. More than 60 commercial fruit and vegetable crops are produced in the Lone Star State - from citrus to mushrooms, potatoes to tomatoes and apples to watermelons. There are regional specialties that bring a spectrum of unique flavors to the table, including honey, pecans, herbs, edible flowers and more. The states diverse regions and climates ensure that something great is always cropping up - no matter the season. Visit a Texas Department of Agriculture certified farmers market or pick-your-own farm and enjoy the best Texas has to offer.

Enjoy these delicious recipes from the farmers who grow what you eat!

ASIAN PEAR SALAD

Provided by Matt Family Orchard
Tomball, Texas

4 cups of mixed greens
1 head of radicchio, shredded
2 Asian pears, diced in 1/2 inch pieces
1 1/2 tsp. white wine vinegar
1/2 tsp. Dijon mustard
4 tsp. virgin olive oil
Salt and pepper to taste
1/2 tsp. sugar
2 T. toasted hazelnuts, chopped
(you can also substitute toasted pecans)

Clean the greens and radicchio, and tear into bite-sized pieces. In a salad bowl, combine greens, radicchio and pears. In a small bowl, whisk vinegar and mustard. Add oil in a steady stream while whisking. Add salt, pepper and sugar. Toss salad while mixing in liquid ingredients. Sprinkle with hazelnuts. Serves 4.

THE PERFECT BLUEBERRY SMOOTHIE

Provided by Blueberry Hill farms
Edom, Texas

1 cup soy milk or regular milk
1/2 of a banana
3 T. cranberry juice
(brings out the berry flavor)
1 cup fresh or frozen blueberries
(rinse with water)
1 cup ice

In high-speed blender mix all ingredients until consistency of a thick shake.
Get your straw and enjoy!

BUMBLEBERRY COBBLER

Provided by Bailey's Berry Patch
Sadler, Texas

Filling

1 cup blackberries
1 cup blueberries
1 cup sliced strawberries
2 Granny Smith apples, chopped
2 cups sugar
4 T. flour or cornstarch
1 stick of butter or margarine
1/2 — 1 cup of water

Mix flour or cornstarch with the sugar. Mix fruit with sugar/flour mixture in a large pot, add 1/2 cup of water and bring to a boil. Add more water after the mixture comes to a boil if mixture is too thick. Add butter or margarine and set aside.

Crust

2 cups flour
1 tsp. salt
1/2 stick of butter
2/3 cups shortening
1/2 cup milk

Mix flour and salt. Cut shortening into flour/salt mixture until mixture resembles pea-size crumbs. Add milk and mix lightly until dough can be formed into a ball. Refrigerate for 1 hour. Remove dough from refrigerator and divide the dough in half. Roll out 1 portion on a floured board. Place bottom crust in a deep dish and lightly butter it. Pour hot berry mixture into pastry lined dish and dot with butter. Roll out remaining dough for top crust. Top crust can be latticed or placed whole. (Make certain to cut vents if whole top crust is used.) Sprinkle top crust with sugar. Bake at 350; F for 40-45 minutes or until done.

EXTRA SPECIAL MAYHAW CAKE

Provided by Jackson Fruit Farm
Livingston, Texas

4 eggs
1/2 cup vegetable oil
2/3 cup sugar
1 cup mayhaw juice/pulp
1 package French vanilla cake mix

Mix eggs, oil, sugar and juice/pulp. Beat on medium speed until well mixed. Add cake mix and beat for 6 minutes. Bake in Bundt pan at 350; F for 40 minutes or until done. Let cake cool for 5 minutes in pan then turn on cake plate.

Glaze

2 cups powdered sugar
1/2 cup mayhaw juice/pulp blended

Blend juice/pulp and powdered sugar, and pour glaze over cake while cake is still hot.

GARDEN DIP

From "The Herb Garden Cookbook: The Complete Gardening and Gourmet Guide,"

Second Edition by Lucinda Hutson, Copyright ' 1987, 1992, 1998, 2003. Courtesy of the University of Texas Press.

1 1/2 cups parsley
3 T. fresh thyme (part lemon thyme preferred), removed from stem
2 tsp. fresh rosemary leaves
1 T. fresh tarragon or fresh Mexican mint marigold, minced
1 T. fresh chives
4 cloves garlic, minced
2 medium-sized shallots, minced
1/2 white onion
12 ounces cream cheese, softened
8 ounces sour cream
2 ounces can anchovies, drained and chopped
3 T. capers, rinsed
1 T. Dijon mustard
Juice from 1 lemon
1/2 tsp. lemon zest
1 tsp. pepper, freshly ground
1/2 tsp. crushed red pepper
2 T. parmesan cheese, freshly grated
2 T. olive oil

Using a food processor or a knife, mince the fresh herbs, garlic, shallots and onion. Blend in the remaining ingredients, whisking in the oil last. Chill several hours; adjusting the flavorings before serving.

Variations

¥ Substitute basil for parsley; parsley for thyme; oregano or marjoram for tarragon.
¥ Use 1/2 cup dill and 1/2 cup parsley; omit thyme and rosemary and add 2 tablespoons shredded sorrel leaves and 1 tablespoon minced mint leaves
¥ Use savory in place of thyme.

Serve in hollowed-out cabbage with crudité s or crackers. It's also delicious with cold sliced beef, as an artichoke dip, or thinned with lemon juice for a salad dressing. Try it as a baked potato topping or omelet filling as well.

GRAPEFRUIT CRÈME BRULÉE

Provided by TexaSweet Citrus Marketing
Mission, Texas

13 ounces Texas Rio Star Grapefruit Juice
10 ounces sugar
18 ounces heavy cream
8 ounces egg yolks
Sugar for caramelizing

Preheat oven to 275° F

In a saucepan, heat grapefruit juice, sugar and cream until warm. Temper liquid with egg yolks and strain. Pour liquid into ramekins and bake in a water bath until set but with center still wobbly. Chill until needed.

To serve, sprinkle the surface of each ramekin evenly with a layer of sugar. Using a blowtorch or broiler, caramelize the sugar until golden.

TOMATOES RELLENOS

(Tomatoes Stuffed with Corn and Squash in Mint Marigold Dressing)
From “The Herb Garden Cookbook: The Complete Gardening and Gourmet Guide,” Second Edition by Lucinda Hutson, Copyright © 1987, 1992, 1998, 2003. Courtesy of the University of Texas Press.

Golden corn and zucchini nest in a ripe tomato shell. Delicious served with grilled fish, chicken or steak.

4 medium-size tomatoes
3 cloves garlic, minced
4 T. fresh lime juice
3 T. Mexican mint marigold vinegar or tarragon vinegar
1/2 cup olive oil
1/2 tsp. dried mustard
1 T. tomato paste
1 tsp. brown sugar
1/2 tsp. crushed dried red chile pepper
3 T. mint marigold, finely chopped
2 T. fresh parsley, minced
1 1/2 cups cooked corn kernels, chilled
2 small zucchinis, chopped
4-6 green onions, chopped

1 green or red bell pepper, chopped
Salt and Freshly Ground Black Pepper

Garnish

Bibb Lettuce and Mint Marigold
Sprigs (And Flowers)

Peel tomatoes (if desired) by plunging them in boiling water for 30 seconds, then immediately immersing them in cold water. Cut tops off tomatoes and remove some of the pulp. Lightly salt the shells and invert on paper towels to drain. Make the vinaigrette by combining garlic, lime juice, vinegar, olive oil, dried mustard, tomato paste, brown sugar, and half of the fresh herbs. Dribble a small amount of vinaigrette (reserving half) into each tomato shell, and chill. Combine corn, zucchini, green onion, bell pepper, salt, pepper and remaining fresh herbs. Mix with remaining vinaigrette and chill for several hours. Line chilled salad plates with bibb lettuce and sprigs, and flowers of mint marigold. Generously stuff each tomato with the corn/squash mixture and drizzle any remaining vinaigrette over the tops. Serves 4.

NOTE: Fresh mint and Garden Mint Vinegar or fresh basil and Basil Chile Garlic vinegar may be substituted for mint marigold and Mint Marigold Vinegar.



GO TEXAN.

Welcome to the World of Texas Farmers Markets and Pick-Your-Own Farms!

Enjoy farm-fresh Texas goodness. Visit the following Houston area farmers markets and pick-your-own farms:

FARMERS MARKETS

EL CAMPO

Wharton County Farmers Market

Location: 1817 N. Mechanic

Days of Operation: Tuesday

Hours of Operation:

5 to 7 p.m.

HOUSTON

Bayou City Farmers Market

Location: 3000 Richmond

Days of Operation:

Wednesday, Saturday

Hours of Operation:

Wednesday 4 to 7 p.m.;

Saturday 8 a.m. to noon

Midtown Farmers Market

Location: 3701 Travis St.

Days of Operation: Saturday

Hours of Operation:

8 a.m. to noon

LIVINGSTON

Livingston Farmers Market

Location: 111 US 59 Loop North

Days of Operation: Tuesday,

Thursday, Saturday

Hours of Operation:

7 a.m. to noon

THE WOODLANDS

Market Street Farmers Market

Location: 9595 Six Pines Dr.

Days of Operation: Saturday

Hours of Operation:

8 to 11 a.m.

WHARTON

Wharton County Farmers Market

Location: Corner of Houston and Milam Streets

Days of Operation: Saturday

Hours of Operation:

9 a.m. to noon

PICK-YOUR-OWN FARMS

AUSTIN COUNTY

Thomas Family Berries

Location: 12753 Hahn Road,

Sealy

Phone: (979) 865-9796

Web site: www.myspace.com/thomasfamilyberries

Products: Blackberries

CHAMBERS COUNTY

Lazy D. Berry Farm

Location: 42703 Interstate 10,

Winnie

Phone: (409) 296-2882

Products: Blueberries

GRIMES COUNTY

Kings Orchard

Location: 11282 County Road

302, Plantersville

Phone: (936) 894-2766

Web site:

www.kingsorchard.com

Products: Strawberries, Blueberries, Blackberries, Figs, Seasonal Vegetables, Cut Flowers

HARRIS COUNTY

Chmielewski Blueberry Farm

Location: 23810 Bauer-

Hockley Road, Hockley

Phone: (281) 304-0554

Web site:

www.chmielewskiblueberry.com

Products: Blueberries

Blackberries of Houston

Location: 19531 Cypress

Church Road

Phone: (281) 373-5357

Web site:

www.blackberriesofhouston.com

Days of Operation: Monday-

Sunday

Hours of Operation: 7 a.m.

to 4:30 p.m.

Products: Blackberries

Matt Family Orchard and Nursery

Location: 21110 Bauer-

Hockley Road., Tomball

Phone: (281) 351-7676 or

(281) 467-9758

Web site:

www.mattfamilyorchard.com

Products: Asian Pear, Asian

Date, Persimmons, Thornless

Blackberries, Citrus, Figs

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

M & R Hydroponic Farms

Location: 1811 McCaleb Road

Phone: (832) 563-8543

Web site: www.mrhydro.com

Products: Lettuce, Tomatoes, Blackberries

POLK COUNTY

Baxter's Blueberry Farm

Location: 1835 Menard

Chapel Road, Livingston

Phone: (936) 685-7927

Products: Blueberries

Hamilton Berry Farm

Phone: (936) 563-4910

Products: Blueberries

Jackson Fruit Farms

Location: 422 Jackson Fruit

Farm Road, Livingston

Phone: (936) 685-4658

Products: Blackberries, Mayhaw

SAN JACINTO COUNTY

Oakview Orchard

Phone: (936) 767-4011

Products: Blueberries

WALLER COUNTY

E & B Orchards

Location: 28268 Clarke Bottom, Hempstead

Phone: (979) 826-6303

Web site:

www.eandborchards.com

Products: Peaches, White

Nectarines, Blackberries

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Chappell Hill Lavender Farm

Location: 2250 Dillard Road, Brenham

Phone: (979) 251-8114

Web site:

www.chapellhilllavender.com

Products: Herbs, Lavender

ELLISON GREENHOUSES

Location: 2107 E. Stone,

Brenham

Phone: (979) 836-6011

Web site:

www.ellisonsgreenhouses.com

Products: Greenhouse Vine-

Ripened Tomatoes, Herbs,

Blooming Plants, Foliage,

Poinsettias

WHARTON COUNTY

The Strawberry Patch

Phone: (979) 531-0048

Web site:

www.texasstrawberrypatch.com

Products: Strawberries,

Peaches



GO TEXAN.